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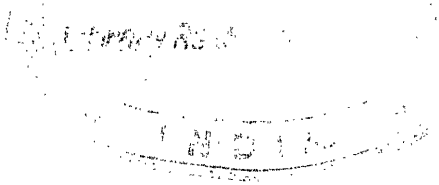
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THE

NUMISMATIC CHRONICLE

EDITED BY

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VOL. I.

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TO

THOMAS BURGON, ESQ.

ONE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENTS OF THE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY,
ETC., ETC., ETC.,

WHOSE KNOWLEDGE OF GREEK COINS

IS DISPLAYED

IN HIS SCIENTIFICALLY FORMED, AND CHOICE COLLECTION;

AND WHOSE ZEAL FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF

NUMISMATIC STUDIES

IS EVINCED BY HIS READINESS, ON ALL OCCASIONS,

TO IMPART THE INFORMATION HE HAS ACQUIRED

DURING A LONG AND FAMILIAR ACQUAINTANCE WITH THOSE

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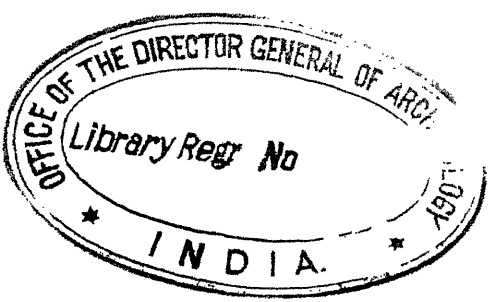
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THE FIRST VOLUME OF THE NUMISMATIC CHRONICLE,

IS

RESPECTFULLY AND GRATEFULLY

DEDICATED.



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NUMISMATIC CHRONICLE.

I.

REMARKS ON THE COINS OF NORTHUMBRIA.

By Edward Hawkins, Esq., F.R.S., F.S.A.

[Read before the Numismatic Society, April 26, 1838.]

Almost all collectors of Anglo-Saxon coins have been dissatisfied with the position, which has been assigned to certain coins, which are ascribed to Egberth, king of Kent: all collectors have felt that Kent was not their proper locality, but that they ought properly to find a home in the North. I am not aware that any attempt has been made to locate them in that part of the world; but I fancy that I have discovered the time and place of their birth, and shall state my views, without further preface, for the amusement, and perhaps instruction of my brother numismatists. At pages 18 and 78 of the first volume of the Numismatic Journal, are given woodcuts of two coins, both of which (the coins, though not the cuts) read alike, and must be assigned to Aldfrith, who was king of Northumberland, from 685 to 705.

In 737, Eadbert ascended the Northumbrian throne, and retained his power till 758. To him I am disposed to assign those coins (hitherto given to Egbert, king of Kent)

which have on the reverse the name of EOTBEREÞTVS, which, for Saxon spelling,[1] is quite near enough to Eadbert to pass for the same name. As in the coin of Aldfrith, only thirty years preceding, we have an animal on one side, and the name of the king on the other; so upon these hitherto called Kentish coins, a similar arrangement of similar types and names occurs. Those coins which bear the name of Egbert, and have for the type a figure holding what have been called two sceptres, I consider to have been struck by the joint authority of King Eadbert and his brother Egbert, archbishop of York, whom I take to be the person represented at full length holding two crosses, not two sceptres.

Another coin, having an animal on one side and the name of Alchred on the other, I assign to Alchred, who was king of Northumberland from 765 to 774.

How far my brother numismatists may concur with me remains to be seen; but it will, at all events, be admitted to be a curious coincidence, that three coins of similar types, and of the general character of Northumbrian coins, should bear the names of three Northumbrian kings, who, if not in immediate succession one after the other, are sufficiently near in point of time to render a similarity of type probable; and that no name should be found upon any of this description of coin, which does not correspond with that of some Northumbrian king, due allowance being made for incorrect spelling. Besides Eadbert, variously spelt, and Alchred, who have been considered moneyers of Egbert, king of Kent, Ruding mentions Alchired and Ecfvair as other moneyers, but on what authority does not appear; no such names occur on any specimens which I have seen.

[1] Upon one of these coins, the king's name is spelt EAƆ-BE/ÞTVS, which I believe to be Eadbearhtus, the third letter, though of unusual form, being probably a sort of square ꝺ or D.

Should these names be correctly stated, I must candidly confess, I cannot find any Northumbrian kings to whom I can apply them. But Alchiréd looks so very like a corrupt reading of Alchred, that I believe it to be the same.

Mr. Cuff has a coin which reads ELFVAIV. This is an unpronounceable word, and evidently blundered: I am much inclined, therefore, to believe that it was intended for ELFWALD, who reigned from 779 to 788; and I am the more disposed to adhere to this emendation, from the name upon a skeatta which I have since seen in the collection of Mr. Brumell. Upon this coin, some of the letters are placed upside down, and one half of the word reads in a contrary direction to the other half: thus VALDꟻƎꟻA. Beginning from the right, and reading half the word, we have ALEF, then commencing from the left, and reading the other half we have VALD, or altogether ALEFVALD. This mode of reading may appear to be taking great liberties with the name; but as the word was probably intended to have some meaning—and as it can have none without some transposition of the letters—and as a very simple emendation gives a name which we should expect to find upon some such coin—I am inclined to hope my interpretation will not be much objected to.

Though this appropriation of this class of coins to Northumberland has very great probability to recommend it, yet there is a difficulty which must be fairly stated, arising from the metal. I will subjoin a list of Northumbrian kings, of whom we have, or suppose we have, coins, and annex to each the description of coin with which we are acquainted.

Ecgfrid,	670 to 685.	Stycas, Æ. all found in 1813, at Heworth.
Aldfrid,	685 to 705.	Skeatta, ÆR. fine, and one Æ. both alike and unique.

Eadbert,	737 to 758.	Skeattæ, Æ. but very base.	
Alchred,	765 to 774.	Skeattæ, Æ.	
Elfwald,	779 to 788.	Skeattæ, Æ.	
Heardulf,	794 to 806.	Styca, Æ.	
Eanred,	808 to 840.	Styca, Æ.	
Ethelred,	840 to 848.	Styca, Æ. & one known of Æ, fine silver.	
Redulf,	844 to 844.	Styca, Æ.	
Osbert,	848 to 867.	Styca, Æ.	
Regnald,	912 to 944.	Pennies, Æ.	
Anlaf,	945.	Pennies, Æ.	
Eric,	951.	Pennies, Æ.	

If coins of silver and of copper were simultaneously current in Northumberland, as might be inferred from the two coins of Aldfrid, and the silver one of Ethelred, it is very remarkable that not one copper one should be known of Eadbert, Alchred, or Eadwald; and that but one silver coin should be found of the five following kings, of whom we have so many copper ones. It would appear as if Northumbria had commenced its coinage in copper, then changed to silver, and then reverted to copper, till it adopted the silver penny in the early part of the 10th century, according to the practice of all the rest of the island. The two silver coins of Aldfrid and Ethelred, clearly prove that coins in that metal were, at least, occasionally struck in that kingdom concurrently with copper; but whether, in very rare instances, as a mere caprice of some one concerned in the coinage, or more numerously for general purposes, it is impossible to say, we must wait for the solution of the difficulty till a greater number of coins are discovered. In the mean time I leave my conjectures to the free criticisms of my brother numismatists.

II.

REMARKS UPON THE SKEATTÆ AND STYCA ATTRIBUTED TO HUTH OF NORTHUMBRIA.

By Edward Hawkins, Esq. F.R.S., F.S.A.

[Read before the Numismatic Society, April 26, 1838.]

In the Numismatic Journal, Vol. II. p. 99, Sir Henry Ellis gives an account of a styca, in his possession, which he assigns to Huth the son of Harold, who, according to Bromton, succeeded Anlaf as king of Northumberland, in 949. Now it must be observed, that no other historian but Bromton, gives to this person the name of Huth; they all give to the son of Harold the name of Eric; and the coins handed down to us concur in this statement. We find, in the earliest chronicles, three successive kings of Northumberland named Regnald, Anlaf, Eric, reigning from 912 to 950. Of Regnald we have a silver penny, on which he is styled *Cunuc* or king; the type is a cross moline on the one side, a small plain cross on the other. We have coins of Anlaf whereon he is styled *Cununc;* and one of them exactly resembles, in type, the one of Regnald just mentioned. Of all the Saxon kings, these two alone have their kingly title expressed in Saxon. Under these circumstances of peculiarity of title and similarity of type, there cannot be any doubt that these coins belong to the Northumbrian monarchs Regnald and Anlaf.

Upon another coin of Anlaf or Onlaf, the king is named Onlaf, and styled Rex. The type of the obverse is a small cross; reverse, the moneyer's name, *Ingelgar Mo*, written in

two lines, with three crosses between, three pellets above, and as many below. Now there is a coin of Eric with the same type, and the same moneyer's name arranged and accompanied precisely as upon the coin of Onlaf; and these two kings we must suppose to have reigned one immediately after the other.

The only doubt remaining, as to the close approximation in point of time, between Regnald and Eric, is as to the identity of Anlaf and Onlaf. There is a slight, but only a slight, difference between the coins bearing these two names; and they may, perhaps, belong to different persons; but if they do, we are unable to fix upon two such, except the two kings of Northumberland of the same or similar name, who immediately succeeded one to the other—one Anlaf the son of Guthfrith, the other Anlaf the son of Sihtric. If these coins should belong to these two different personages, it would make no alteration in the argument: we should still have an uninterrupted succession of Northumbrian kings, from 912 to 950 (that is, from the accession of Regnald to the death of Eric), all of whom struck silver pennies, and of whom no stycas are known.

The last known styca well authenticated, is of Osbert, who was killed in 868. If there be one of Ella, it brings such coin to no later a period: for he was killed in the same battle as Osbert. It is not, therefore, probable, that such a coin as the styca should be revived after a lapse of 80 years, which is the period between the death of Osbert and accession of Huth; especially when we find, that a totally different description of coin had been in the mean time established in this kingdom of Northumberland for nearly half that period, without any symptom of a contemporaneous styca. We must now call to mind, that Huth of Bromton is the same person as Eric of the other chron-

iclers; and it does seem almost impossible that this same king should have struck silver pennies under the name of Eric, and brass stycas under the name of Huth.

We must now turn to the Styca itself, and see whether it bears upon its surface, any fact which ought to subvert the foregoing arguments. Upon one side, the workmanship is so rude, that not a single letter can be satisfactorily made out. The other side is well executed, and very legible, except in one part, where one or two letters are obliterated. I read HVA····RET. Sir Henry Ellis read, HVAD·RE+. The material difference between his reading and mine, is in the last letter. He has been, as I think, led into a mistake by the graving tool having accidentally slipped, in the first forming of the upright stroke of the T so that a line, though a very slight one, appears from the top of that letter, to one of the dots immediately above it, in the circle of dots, which forms the ornamental boundary of the type of the coin. The T, by this accident, assumes the appearance of a cross; and, as the arrangement of the letters upon stycas is not very accurate, a cross in that situation could only be read as a ×. A similar slip of the graver is visible at the end of the upright and cross strokes of the preceding letter E, and, less obviously, upon one or two more letters. With regard to the obliterated letter, or letters, in the middle of the word, we can only conjecture; I fancy I perceive rudiments of two letters, and I conjecture them to be ET, partly because the upright stroke of the first letter is sufficiently clear, and might serve for E as well as D; and there is an appearance, beyond it, like the foot of a T; and we should, then, have a name, not exactly the same, but very similar to one upon a styca of Eanred, HVÆETRED (see *Archæologia*, vol. xxv. pl. xxxix, figg, 155, 156, 157.) Among the numerous stycas mentioned by Mr. Adamson in the paper here referred to, there is not one giving the exact

name which appears upon that of Sir Henry Ellis; we therefore unfortunately want the assistance which a coin identically the same might have afforded, to supply the deficiency of that now under consideration.

Upon the whole, then, I am disposed to believe, that the name of Huth is itself a mistake of Bromton, being in contradiction to other chroniclers; and that the styca of Sir Henry Ellis affords no confirmation to the statement of that historian. In other words the styca does not belong to any king of the name of Huth, Huath, or Huad; and the very existence of such a king is highly problematical.

It is now necessary that I should say a few words, in reply to a paper which appeared in the Numismatic Journal, communicated by Mr. Lindsay of Cork, (Vol. II. p. 234.) I stated some reasons in the commencement of this paper for believing that the silver pennies attributed to Regnald, Anlaf, and Eric, were correctly so placed; and I did so the more at length, because the correct attribution of stycas, and skeattæ, to Huth, seemed to me very much affected by the settlement of that point. All the arguments grounded upon the establishment of a different description of coin, without the admixture of any well-authenticated concurrent coinage of a different description, which affected the styca, affect still more strongly the skeattæ; and are, I think, sufficient to justify their rejection. I have, however, a little more to say.

Mr. Lindsay first builds his theory upon the correct appropriation of Sir Henry Ellis's styca: that foundation, I think, I have removed from under him; and all the support he could derive from that styca is gone. So also, I must admit, are the objections which I should have made to his theory, if the styca had really belonged to Huth. Coins so dissimilar, in every respect of metal, type, workmanship, and general appearance, can scarcely be admitted to belong

to one person, without very strong and unequivocal proof. The claims of the skeattæ must be considered upon their own merits, neither benefited, nor injured, by the question respecting the styca.

If we compare the silver pennies of Regnald, Anlaf, and Eric, with these base skeattæ attributed by Mr. Lindsay to Huth, it will be at once perceived that there is the greatest possible difference between them in every respect. It seems almost impossible that coins so absolutely dissimilar could have been issued under the same prince; and the claims of the skeattæ must rest solely upon the legend. Now this appears to me so blundered upon every specimen I have seen, that no solid argument can be grounded upon it. Of the specimens which Mr. Lindsay has given, not one reads correctly: no two read alike. That gentleman's interpretation is "that the legend on both sides is generally TAVHMVAHVAT, the three centre letters MVA for moneta and the word HVAT, at each side, reads from the centre, a mode of reading I have frequently found on Hiberno-Danish coins." Mr. Lindsay has one coin, the centre letters of which are, OMO. With regard to the reading upon the Hiberno-Danish coins, I am sorry to say I am not acquainted with them, nor do I know any coins which have their legends in that *dos-a-dos* fashion. Mr. Lindsay refers to a coin of Edred, as a proof of the union of the king's name with the title *Monetarius;* but it must be observed, that on the numerous coins of Edred and of other kings of those times, the title *Rex* is almost universally annexed, the title *Mon.* only once, and therefore probably a blunder; but upon these skeattæ, the supposed abbreviation of *Monetarius* always occurs, that of *Rex* never.

Another objection to this appropriation of this class of skeattæ, is, that I have never yet heard of any number of

them having been found in the part of the country where they are supposed to have circulated. I may go further; I do not *know* even of one of this type having been found throughout the whole island. But, in 1808, 542 stycas, and in 1833, about 8000 were discovered, of kings of Northumberland and archbishops of York, in regular succession, from about 808 to 867; amongst them not one skeatta was to be found.

Of Northumbrian kings, commencing with Ecgfrith in 670, and including Eadbert, Alchred, Ethelred, &c. &c. (see page 3, of this volume), down to Eric, who was killed in 950; we have a tolerably complete series of coins, stycas or pennies, but not one skeatta, well authenticated, or even probably appropriated. From all these circumstances, I feel compelled to reject the claim of these skeattæ to be appropriated to Huth; whose very existence even, under that name, seems to rest upon doubtful authority. I am inclined to believe, that, upon a reconsideration of the subject, no one will be more ready to reject the claims of these skeattæ than Mr. Lindsay himself, who to great knowledge adds sound judgment, which will speedily rectify any error into which he may have fallen.

I find it in this case, as in all others, more easy to raise objections against a proposition, than to substitute one more satisfactory. Having driven these skeattæ away from the supposed Huth, and his æra, I am ready candidly to acknowledge that I do not know what to do with them. The whole subject of skeattæ requires attentive consideration; and I am disposed to think that some interesting results would repay the labour which might be bestowed upon them. If we look upon all the varieties of skeattæ as one class, belonging to one country and forming one successive series nearly contemporaneous, we must fix their date as about coeval with

the introduction of Christianity into the country to which they belong: for some of them have, and others have not, the symbol of the cross. Upon referring to Ruding's plates, it will be perceived that the types are very various; and upon examining the coins themselves, it will be found that the workmanship is of different characters; they therefore may, and probably do, belong to different countries, or at least to different districts. The form of the diadem upon some of the heads, and the character of some of the types, point most indisputably to a Roman origin; while other types, such as the snake and dragon, seem to indicate something of a Danish connexion. The strange figure, which appears upon Ruding's pl. 1. fig. 5 to 16, and which fig. 18 almost proves to have been intended for a bird, so closely resembles that upon the coin attributed to Ethelbert, king of Kent (see Ruding, pl. 3. fig. 1), that it is difficult to suppose that they were not nearly contemporary. Looking at Ruding's plate 26, it will be observed that the quadrupling of the cross upon fig. 11, accords with the similar quadrupling upon various coins of Offa. Upon fig. 13, 14, and 15, and fig. 13, pl. 26, are circular ornaments, as upon Offa, pl. 4, fig. 1 to 5. Referring to pl. 26, fig. 1, 10, 11, 13, and more especially to fig. 6, 7, 9, there will be found figures holding crosses very similar to the coins ascribed to Egbert, king of Kent, but which I have ventured to remove to Northumberland (see page 1 of this volume). And upon pl. 2, fig. 2, 3, 4, 15, and pl. 26, fig. 5, 9, 10, will be found animals not dissimilar to those upon the other Kentish stycas, which I have also ventured to remove to Northumberland. It may now be observed that I have compared certain skeattæ to certain other coins, which have been attributed to Saxon kings, all of whose reigns fall within the years 725 and 796.

Ethilbert, king of Kent, reigned from		725 to 760
Offa,	Mercia,	757 to 796
Eadberht,	Northumbria,	737 to 758
Alchred,		765 to 774
Elfwald (during the expulsion of Ethelred)		779 to 788
Ethelred		774 to 796

Though the similarity in all these cases may not be so great as to justify any one in asserting that the skeattæ were actually contemporary with the Saxon coins alluded to, yet is there sufficient resemblance to create a belief that there was some connecting link between the two classes of coins; and I should therefore be disposed to give to the skeattæ a date of about the seventh century; and to consider some of them, those especially with a quadruped on one side, as the immediate precursors of those early coins which have been assigned to Kent. I only venture to suggest these ideas to those persons who may be disposed to devote sufficient time and attention to these coins, for their more satisfactory arrangement. It is of the utmost consequence, for a correct appropriation of these and all other doubtful coins, to ascertain as far as possible the exact spots where they have been disinterred; and the nature of the objects which may have been found with them; and I would take this opportunity of pressing more strongly upon the attention of all lovers of antiquity residing in the country, the great importance of ascertaining, beyond all doubt, the exact locality of any discovery of even a single coin; especially those belonging to the period between the departure of the Romans and the Norman conquest, and those which are called British, and which preceded the arrival, or at least the establishment, of the Romans in this island. Many coins must owe their correct appropriation solely to this description of information.

III.

OBSERVATIONS UPON BRITISH COINS.

By Edward Hawkins, Esq., F. R. S., F. S. A.

[Read before the Numismatic Society, May, 24, 1838.]

The situation of Britain with regard to metallic currency, previous to the arrival and permanent establishment of the Romans in this island, has been the subject of many dissertations and much unsatisfactory discussion.

There will not, I think, be much difficulty in shewing that the doubts which have been entertained, and the strong assertions which have been made upon this subject, are founded upon a misinterpretation of a passage in Cæsar, *De Bello Gallico*, lib. v. This author is, perhaps, the only competent and contemporary writer who has alluded to the subject; and we need not be surprised that much deference has been paid to his assertions. Upon the authority then of this author, many writers, and judicious ones too, have declared it as their opinion, that, previous to the time of Cæsar, no money, strictly so called, was in circulation among the Britons; but that brass and iron rings or plates, adjusted to a certain weight, were the usual and only medium of traffic. Others, not knowing how to dispose of the coins which they actually saw, and which they could not assign to Romans or to Saxons, but still tethered by Cæsar's assertions, were involved in doubts and hesitation; and terminated their investigations by an acknowledgment, that they could not satisfactorily arrive at any definite expression of opinion.

Eckhel[1], upon whose judgment in general the greatest reliance may be placed, declares that we cannot, with

[1] *Doctrina Num. Vet.* vol. i. p. 80.

confidence, assert that any ancient coins, except Roman, belong to Britain. He acknowledges that learned men have vaunted of ancient British coins; he admits that Combe, himself a Briton, may have good reasons, with which he is not acquainted, for assigning certain coins to Britain; but he still refers to Cæsar as an authority, that the Britons, during their independence, had not any money. He then quotes the passage of Cæsar in these words, "Utuntur aut ære, aut taleis ferreis, ad certum pondus examinatis, pro numo."

In the addenda to his great work, published some years afterwards, he inserts a remonstrance he had received from some anonymous English writer, and adds a list of some of the coins inscribed CVNO · VER, &c.; but his opinion is not much shaken, and he still hesitates to admit the claim of Britain to these coins.

Relying upon the same authority, other continental authors have adopted the same opinions, and have denied to Britons a coinage of their own. Sestini and Mionnet alike refuse to admit into their arrangement any British coins.

Bishop Nicholson[2] observes, "The money used here in Cæsar's time was nothing more than iron rings, and shapeless pieces of brass: nor does it well appear that ever afterwards their kings brought in any other sort." He then quotes the admirable opinion of his friend Mr. Llwyd, which I shall presently transcribe, and proceeds, "Here is a fair and probable opinion against the express testimony of Julius Cæsar, who could hardly be imposed upon in this part of the account he gives of our isle. Camden's stories of Cunobeline and Queen Bunducia are much of a piece

[2] *English Historical Library*, part. i. chap. 3.

with those of Dr. Plot's Prasutagus; all of them liable to very just and (to me) unanswerable objections. For my part, I am of opinion that never any of the British kings did coin money. The most, if not all of the forementioned pieces, which are not counterfeits, I take to be amulets."

Ruding[3], at the commencement of his annals, says, "It is difficult to ascertain, from Cæsar's account, whether the Britons had proceeded so far as actually to coin money, or whether they were not contented with rude pieces of brass and iron rings or plates, regulated to a certain weight. The more precious metals, if his statement be correct, did not circulate amongst them. Were his accuracy and extent of information entirely to be depended upon, no other evidence would be necessary to prove, that the coins, which are usually attributed to the early British kings, belong to some other nation, for they occur in gold and silver, as well as in the inferior metals, to which his description, provided it should be taken to intend actual money, absolutely confines them. I know not, indeed, upon what ground the authority of Cæsar, as to this point, can be impeached. If we proceed to examine the coins themselves, they furnish no proofs to justify their appropriation to any country." Struck however, by the assertion that such coins are found frequently in Britain and no where else, he still observes, "The words of Cæsar, however, forbid me to admit that they were in existence when he landed on this island; and therefore, if they be British, their origin must be referred to some period subsequent to his second invasion, and prior to Cunobeline's improvement of his coins in imitation of the Roman money. This, it is true, will give but a short space for their formation; but the supposition appears

[3] *Annals of the Coinage of Britain*, 2nd edition, vol. i, p. 263.

to me more plausible than any which may be formed in direct opposition to Cæsar's account." He quotes the passage of Cæsar from the Edit. Rom. 1469, "Utuntur tamen ære, ut nummo aureo, aut annulis ferreis, ad certum pondus examinatis, pro nummis."

It was not from careless haste, or want of consideration, or from their attention not having been drawn to facts, which ought to have led to a correct judgment upon the question under discussion, that these authors formed their opinions; but from allowing all facts and arguments to be borne down by what they deemed to be the assertion of Cæsar. Speed had acknowledged Cæsar's assertion, that "the coynes which they (the Britons) had, were either of brasse, or else iron rings sized at a certain weight, which they used for money," and fancied he had seen such objects which had been dug up. Struck, however, by the peculiar and un-Romanlike appearance of the coins frequently found in Britain, he proceeds: "But as times grew more civil and traffic more frequent, they shortly after stampt both silver and gold. The coins are commonly embossed and shield-like, whereon the inscription or face is seen; the reverse hollow, and therein the device set, and by these forms are they known to be British, no other nation stamping the like, except some few among the Grecians." Speed, *History of Great Britain*, book v. chap. 4. sect. 12.

Camden says[4], "There are found frequently in this island coins of gold, silver, and copper, of various sizes, and almost all of them concave on one side; some with inscriptions, others very plain ones, such as I have not yet learned to have been dug up any where else till lately (1607) some such were found in France."

[4] *Britannia. Conjectures on British Coins.*

Llwyd, in the passage I have before alluded to, says, he believed that before the coming-in of the Romans, the Britons had gold coins of their own, because there have been frequently found thick pieces of that metal hollowed on one side, with a variety of unintelligible marks and characters upon them. These cannot be ascribed either to Romans, Saxons, or Danes; and therefore it is reasonable we should conclude them to be British: and the reason why he thought they were coined before the Romans came is this;—"If the Britons had learned the art from them, they would have endeavoured to imitate their manner of coining." Such reasonable conjectures as those of Speed, Camden, and Llwyd, founded, as they were, upon well established facts, failed of convincing those who placed their reliance upon a passage of Cæsar, well known to be more obscured by various readings than, perhaps, any passage in his works. As then, what I consider the just right of Britain to an independent coinage of her own, has been denied to her almost entirely upon the authority of this celebrated passage of Cæsar, I have thought it well worth the trouble of attempting to ascertain, if possible, the correct reading of Cæsar, or, at all events, one which may be, in a great degree, borne out by facts which are almost daily before us.

In the British Museum is a very valuable manuscript of Cæsar of the tenth century, the reading of which is "Utuntur aut ære, aut nummo aureo, aut anulis ferreis ad certum pondus examinatis, pro nummo." MS. Add. 10084, fol. 27. b.

In this reading the following manuscripts concur (the only variations being, in some, *autem* instead of the first *aut;* or *ere* for *ære*):—

Brit. Mus. Burney, 132, p. 88; *Harl.* 2459, fol. 55, b.;—*Harl.* 2683, fol. 30, b.;— *Harl.* 4639, fol. 29;— *MS. Add.* 10085, fol. 51. b.;—*Paris Cod.* 5769, 5670, 5671, 5773.

The Paris manuscripts 5056, 5766, 5772, 5763, 5768, Brit. Mus. Harl. 4834, all read *aliis* instead of *annulis*; as does Paris Cod. 5774; the word *æreo* being inserted in the margin opposite to *aureo*. It is scarcely necessary to remark, that *aliis* can scarcely be anything but the misreading of a contraction of *annulis*, misunderstood by some early transcriber:—

—— aut ere aut nummo ereo, aut aleis
Harl. 4106.

—— aut ære aut nummo æreo, aut aliis
Merton Coll. Oxon. Sec. xiii. aut xiv.; — *Harl.* 4629; — *Paris*, 5765.

———————————— aut taleis. — *Paris*, 5764.

One Paris Cod. 5767, is so manifestly corrupt as scarcely to require mentioning. It reads, "utuntur aut minimo ære aut aureo aut aleis ferreis."

Of all the manuscripts of Cæsar which have been quoted above, or perhaps elsewhere, the most ancient and the most correct, is probably the one placed at the head of the list 10084. In the admission of the word *nummo*, combined with *aureo* or *æreo*, and the most material word in the whole passage, it is supported by all the other copies; and in the word *aureo*, another most important word, by nineteen out of the twenty-two referred to. Indeed, I believe it will be found that every manuscript, having the least pretensions to correctness, asserts that the Britons used money of some sort or other, copper or gold, as well as rings or plates, or pieces of iron delivered by weight. In this the early editions concur, down to the end of the sixteenth century.

It is Scaliger, who, in 1635, seems first to have omitted all

mention of money; in which I cannot perceive that he was supported by any manuscripts: he gives the passage thus: "utuntur aut æreo aut taleis ferreis." And he was followed by perhaps all editors till the year 1737, when Oudendorpius merely changed the word *æreo* into *ære*. This reading might admit that the Britons used copper money; the word *æs* being used more frequently in the sense of money than of the mere metal: but Eckhel, who used the passage in this form, does not admit that interpretation: he still does not allow money to this island; and we have already seen that such is the opinion which has been entertained by many writers, who have placed more reliance upon the supposed authenticity of Cæsar than upon indisputable facts which were within their own knowledge, and which ought to have led them to examine whether Cæsar really did write what was imputed to him.

Under these circumstances, I am disposed to consider that the reading above given, from MS. 10084, is the true reading of the controverted passage of Cæsar, notwithstanding its almost universal rejection by his numerous editors. In this passage, the word "*æs*" can scarcely be considered to refer merely to metal; it must mean *æs cusum*, struck money; such being the usual, perhaps universal, term for copper or brass money. The passage then will stand thus: "They," the Britons, "use either brass money, or gold money, or, instead of money, iron rings adjusted to a certain weight." It remains now to examine how far the assertion of Cæsar, as thus stated, is confirmed or impugned by the testimony of other authors, or by facts which the discoveries of modern times are daily bringing to light. Tacitus, nearly a century later, asserts that Britain produced gold, silver, and other metals: if this be true, and the passage from Cæsar as above quoted be correct, it would

be reasonable to expect that gold and silver ornaments, and gold coins, would occasionally be discovered: it remains to examine how far this is the fact. In the British Museum, is the greater part of a gold corslet, found in a tumulus near Mold in Flintshire, a druidical gorget, a variety of armlets, rings, and other ornaments, and a gold torques found in Brecon. Armlets of a construction similar to the torques, and found near Egerton Hall in Cheshire, are now in the possession of Sir Philip de Malpas Grey Egerton, Bart.; there are also several others, both in public and private collections, which it is unnecessary to particularize, but enough to establish the fact that gold and silver were manufactured in this island at an early period: and the workmanship is of that character, as to leave little doubt of their having been executed at least as early as the times of Julius Cæsar. Of the iron rings mentioned by Cæsar, none have been found, or at least recognized as such; nor is there perhaps much reason to be surprised,—iron suffers so much from decomposition, that all trace of any stamp, if the rings ever had any, would be quite obliterated; the original forms would probably be rude; and should such objects ever have been actually found, they would be at once thrown away as worthless, like decayed links of an old chain. They were probably too unwieldy to be easily carried about, and accidentally lost, and not well adapted for secret treasures, when coins of the precious metals afforded a more convenient object for that purpose.

The difficulty with regard to brass money is not so easily overcome; if such really existed, it is almost impossible but that some should have been found; yet the evidence of such having been actually discovered is very slight. The coins which are represented in Ruding, pl. 3, 4, fig. 55 to 72, are considered British, and may possibly have been in existence

in the time of Cæsar; but they are of tin mixed perhaps with some copper, and can scarcely be the sort of coin alluded to by him. It must also be acknowledged that they have not that character of form, type, and workmanship, which can claim a ready assent to their being contemporary with him; though it is almost as difficult to assign them decisively to any other specific period. It may be necessary to remark upon a few coins of brass published by Ruding, pl. 3, fig. 49—54. Of these, fig. 49 and 50 exactly resemble some in the British Museum, all of which have come from Jersey, and must therefore be considered as belonging to that island. It would be unsafe to speak confidently about fig. 51 without seeing it: but if the cross be intended for the Christian symbol, it must be of a later date than the coins now looked for: 53 is evidently of the same class as the gold ones, pl. 2, fig. 22—30, whose British origin we should hesitate to admit, because we have no certain evidence of the disinterment of any in Britain, if we except those like fig. 46, 47, 48, which were found at Mount Batten, near Plymouth, in 1832; and which so much resemble those which are considered to belong to Jersey, that it may be doubted whether they were not brought thence by some traders. Fig. 52 is certainly British; fig. 54 is possibly such, and of the period in question: so that as far as they go, they may be admitted evidence of the truth of Cæsar's assertion, that the British had, in his days, a brass money.

It may be asked, and it has been frequently asked, what grounds there are for believing, that the gold and silver coins usually attributed to Britain were actually struck and circulated in this island, or that they were contemporary with Julius Cæsar. That they were struck and circulated in Britain is put beyond doubt, from the circumstance of

their being frequently dug up within this island; and though coins of a somewhat similar description are found in Gaul, yet do the types, or rather perhaps the treatment of the types, so differ, that there cannot be any doubt that the Gaulish and British discoveries belong originally to different sides of the Channel. A single coin, or a few coins, may be carried about and dropped anywhere; but when a number of coins of a similar description are found almost exclusively in any one district, it may fairly be concluded, that that district is the locality to which they originally belonged. A little consideration of the subject will perhaps prove equally satisfactory with regard to the age of these coins. Upon a very first view of them, it will be evident that they are not Roman, nor formed after a Roman model. The immense quantities of Roman coin discovered every year in almost every part of the kingdom, prove that, at least during the greater part of the Roman dominion in Britain, Roman coins were the circulating medium of the country. Immediately after the departure of the Romans, the Saxons sprung up, and with them a description of coin totally differing in every respect from those which we call British. As, then, these coins are neither Roman nor Saxon, there is no other period to which they can be assigned than one anterior to the perfect establishment of the Roman power in Britain.

As these coins are clearly not of Roman nor Saxon origin, and are formed upon a totally different model and fabric, it becomes necessary to inquire what may have been their probable origin. It is quite clear from the type, form, and fabric of these coins, that by some means or other they claim their parentage from Greece. If a Roman coin be placed upon a table, it will be seen that the field on both sides is parallel with the plane of the

table; but place a Greek or a British coin on the table, and it will immediately be seen that one side is convex, and the other concave. The type is also of a Grecian character, being a horseman or a chariot, with sometimes a victory hovering over the charioteer. These are sometimes exceedingly rude in execution, the very best of them much inferior to real Grecian coins; and the costume and accompaniments are modified according to the usages of the country where the coins were intended to circulate. They are rude imitations of Grecian coins, the likeness being exceedingly imperfect, as they were probably executed by ill instructed artists, not from coins before them, but from the recollection of what they had once seen, or had been described to them.

So little is known of the early history of the aboriginal inhabitants of this country, that there are not any means of ascertaining exactly when or how the arts of Greece, however imperfectly imitated, found their way into Britain. The Gauls, we know, had frequent intercourse, both commercial and military, with parts of Greece; and it is impossible to doubt that the Gauls and Britons would, not unfrequently, paddle across the Channel to the opposite shore, which was actually within their sight, long before Cæsar made his formal attack upon Britain. From this intercourse would be derived the knowledge of continental money; and hence would naturally arise the desire to make a money of their own after the continental form.

Upon many of these coins there are not the slightest traces of letters; upon others letters are clearly legible, and these letters are Roman. Many of those which are without letters may have been in circulation long before the invasion of Julius Cæsar; and so indeed may some of those with letters, as the knowledge of the Roman charac-

ters may have been acquired during the peaceful intercourse between the opposite shores; and the Britons may have adopted the Roman letters, though they retained the Grecian form and fabric of the coins. It would not be until some time after the Roman power was established generally over the island, that their money would supersede that of the native inhabitants. Accordingly there are in Britain comparatively few of the coins of the earlier Roman Emperors, while on the coins of Cunobeline, who was contemporary with Augustus, Tiberius, and Caligula, we have the proof of a coinage differing in all its principles from the Roman model, and accommodated to that of Greece; the types indeed bearing a resemblance to those of Augustus, which were themselves imitations of those of Greece.

It has been suggested that the Britons derived a knowledge of money from the Phœnicians, who visited our shores for the purposes of trade, and the acquisition of tin; and the types of the British coins have been supposed to bear a rude resemblance to those of several districts of Magna Græcia. Now, if a variety of Grecian coins, sufficient to serve as models for native money, had been imported, it is probable that not a few such would be found in the county of Cornwall, which is supposed to have been the chief seat of foreign traffic, and that the British imitations would be found there more frequently than elsewhere. Neither of these circumstances seems to be the fact. I am not aware of Grecian coins having been discovered in Cornwall, or of British being disinterred in the south-western districts more frequently than in any other. I am rather disposed to think, that the gold coins considered to be British are most usually found in the southern parts of the island, or those which were most easily

accessible from the opposite shores of Gaul. The British types seem to be taken principally from those of Philip of Macedon, barbarous imitations of which abounded in Europe. The resemblances to the original would be more or less correct according to circumstances; being affected by distance of time and place, the greater or less degree of skill of the artists employed, the wish to modify the original type, and accommodate it to the tastes or feelings of the people for whose use it was made. The imitation, too, appears to have depended upon memory; for though there is a general resemblance to the original type, it is evidently not executed with the ancient coin before the eye of the artist. The coin is clearly not a coarse copy of a fine original; but is itself the original work of an artist, who retains no more than a very general idea of the device he is to execute. From tradition he learns that he is to put a head on one side, and a chariot or a horseman on the other; and as he has no skill, he executes the device according to his want of power, aided a little by the less rude imitation of his predecessors; each succeeding coinage being worse than the other, till the more frequent intercourse with the Romans improved the skill of the native artists; for it will be observed, that the rudest coins are entirely without any letters; and that the introduction of Roman letters upon the coins is co-incident with the improvement of the workmanship, till it attained its highest perfection under Cunobeline; immediately after which I imagine the genuine British coinage to have ceased, and to have been superseded by that of Rome.

To sum up the whole matter, I am disposed to think that the British coins were executed in Britain by native artists, with greater or less skill, according to a variety of circumstances, after Macedonian originals, the knowledge

of which was obtained from barbarous imitations derived from Gaul; that all advancement in skill and workmanship was derived from the Romans, increasing with the increase of intercourse, till the establishment of the invader's power put an end to the independence of Britain. I am firmly persuaded, that a metallic currency of struck money existed in Britain before the days of Julius Cæsar; and I feel equally confident that, in the memorable passage so often quoted and so much corrupted, especially by later editors, he has actually asserted that fact. Modern discoveries are better than conjectural emendations: they prove that Britain had coins not derived from Rome; and that Cæsar, correctly read, asserts the truth, when he says that the Britons used money of copper and of gold.

IV.

THE COINAGE OF MODERN GREECE.

By L. H. J. Tonna, Esq.

[Read before the Numismatic Society, April 26, 1838.]

In case the Numismatic Society should not be in possession of specimens of the coinage of modern Greece, I beg to forward two copper coins of King Otho; I regret that I have not a complete set of them. I only brought one set with me, which I placed in the cabinet of this institution, together with two specimens of the coinage of Capodistrias which are now becoming rare.

The first coins, struck in regenerate Greece, were the Phœnix money in 1828, when Count John Capodistrias

assumed the government of the country, under the title of president of the Greek state. His money bore on the one side a phœnix rising from flames, surmounted by a Christian cross, and rays of light issuing from a cloud,—legend Ελληνικη Πολιτεια; and on the other, the name and value of the coin, with the legend Κυβερνητης Ι. Α. Καποδιστριας. His money consisted of—

Copper.

The lepton—value about $\frac{1}{12}$ of a penny.
Five lepta-piece.
Ten lepta-piece.

Silver.

The phœnix = 100 lepta, or about 8¼d. English. The lepton thus took the place of the old Turkish *parà*, or small tin coin.

The phœnix was adopted as the national device, and was borne on the national seals, uniform buttons, &c. and embroidered on the φέσι, or red skull cap, of all who held official situations; it was not, however, inserted in the national flag, which remained unaltered:—five blue horizontal stripes on a white ground, and the *jack* in the corner, a white cross on a blue ground. The jack was used on the land-fortresses, bowsprits of ships of war, and in all situations where we employ the union-jack. After the assassination of Capodistrias, at the foot of the altar of the church of San Spiridion at Nauplia, a provisional government was appointed, consisting of five commissioners, to preside at the helm of the infant state, until the arrival of their youthful monarch. The authority of this government did not, however, extend beyond the range of the guns of the few fortresses which were in their actual possession: the rest of the country was given up to anarchy and plunder. Whilst

I was at Patras in 1832, Kitzo Tzavellas (son of the heroic and patriotic John Tzavellas) took possession of the castle of that town at the head of about 800 Suliotes, imprisoned the governor, and assumed the government of the neighbouring country, under the pompous title of Governor-in-chief of Achaia, and lord of Patras, Rhium and Antirrhium, the two fortresses which command the narrow entrance to the gulf of Corinth. He inserted the phœnix in the centre of the cross of the national flag; and from that time the phœnix became a revolutionary emblem,—the slothful and impotent provisional government having adopted the more appropriate symbol of the owl—appropriate to the sluggishness, not the wisdom, of these sage *quinquevirs*. At the time of the assassination of the president Capodistrias, the brave Kanaris, who, in his brulotes or small fire brigs, had been the midnight dread of Turkish fleets, and had blown up two *capudân pachàs*, in their three-decked ships, was in command of a twenty gun corvette. He immediately took his ship to *Poros*, where the national mint had been established, landed a few of his brass guns, caused them to be coined into money; and having paid his crew all their long arrears of wages, he quietly returned to his native island of Ipsara, and died there shortly afterwards, broken-hearted, at seeing the wretched state to which his unhappy country had been reduced. He was a truly patriotic and good man, and never entered into the disgraceful intrigues which sullied the other leaders of the Greek revolution. It was he who fired the train which blew up the ship of the atrocious Alì, the *capudân pachà* who conceived and executed the fearful massacre of Scio, laden with the spoil of that now desolate island. These coins, struck by Kanaris, were, I believe, the last of the Phœnix money.

The coinage of King Otho consists of the following:—

Silver.

The drachm—same size and value as the phœnix of Capodistrias. viz. 8¼d.

The ½ drachm, and ¼ drachm.

Also pieces of 2 drachms, and pieces of 6 drachms.

The piece of six drachms was adopted instead of one of five drachms, which would have rendered the coinage more uniform, in order to assimilate this their largest silver coin, to the Spanish, Austrian, and Sicilian dollars.

Copper.

Pieces of 1 lepton.
" of 5 lepta.
" of 10 lepta.

The silver coins bear the head of Otho—ΩΘΩΝ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ · ΤΗΣ · ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ, and on the reverse, on an escutcheon azure, a cross cquped argent, pierced with the chequer board of Bavaria, (barry bendy azure and argent). The whole surmounted by a six arched crown, with globe and cross, and branches of laurel, as supporters; underneath the date and name of the coin as 1 · ΔΡΑΧΜΗ—½ · ΔΡΑΧΜΗ &c. &c.

The copper coins, bear on one side the shield and crown, as above, with ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΑ · ΤΗΣ · ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ, and on the other, the name of the coin in a wreath.

King Otho's money was all struck in Bavaria. I regret that I am unable to give any information respecting the purity of the metal, alloy, &c.

LEWIS H. J. TONNA.

United Service Museum, March 29, 1838.

N. B. The national flag now used, has the shield of Bavaria surmounted by a crown in the centre of the white cross.

V.

AN ACCOUNT OF GOLD COINS OF JAMES I. AND CHARLES I. DISCOVERED AT SOUTHEND.

By James Dodsley Cuff, Esq. F.S.A.

[Read before the Numismatic Society, April 26, 1828.]

In the seventh number of the Numismatic Journal published in January last, I observe an account headed, "Treasure discovered at Southend," which states "that a "few days since, a jury was impanelled before Mr. "Carttar, the coroner for West Kent, to inquire into the "circumstances under which a number of gold coins were "found hidden in the ground in that neighbourhood. "Mr. Maule the Treasury solicitor attended on behalf of "the crown. The jury, having inspected the coins, four "hundred and twenty in number, the coroner proceeded "to expound to the jury the Queen's right under the law of "Treasure trove to property discovered under similar cir- "cumstances to the present. The jury then returned a "verdict of Treasure trove, and the coin was seized by "the coroner in the name of the Queen."

In a very short time after the above verdict was pronounced, Mr. Carttar delivered over the whole of the coins to the before-mentioned Mr. Maule, and here unfortunately we lose all further identity of the pieces.

As the British Museum is now very generally known to possess an extensive and valuable collection of coins of all countries, and more especially of those relating to our own country, and receives an annual grant from Parliament for the purpose of improving and increasing the same, I con

cluded that these four hundred and twenty gold coins would, as a matter of course, have all been sent to that establishment.

It is possible and very likely, if this find had been submitted to the examination of the officers of the Museum, some pieces might have been selected of such curiosity and rarity, as would have been an acquisition to the national cabinet, and without any cost to the country, which in these days of rigid economy must not be considered unimportant. Besides, all persons who take any interest in these matters would then have known what the trove really contained.

I have learned, upon enquiring at the Museum, that a few of the pieces only had been sent there, and those not selected by any persons at all learned in Numismatics, and that the others had all been consigned to the crucible.

Considering, therefore, that all further investigation is destroyed, and that a little information is better than none, I shall proceed to lay before the Society, without any apology, the following meagre account; only expressing my regret that the time did not allow of the examination of the reverses.

We have seen that the coins were four hundred and twenty in number, and that they were all of the same denomination, that is, pieces of twenty shillings. Of this number, one hundred and thirty-six were the last coinage of James I. with his bust laureated; these offer no interest, save that of its being the first instance of our monarchs having their brows ornamented with the laurel wreath.

The remaining two hundred and eighty-four were coins of Charles of three different coinages, as regards the bust, with various Mint marks.

First Coinage, Forty-seven coins.

With the Ruff and Collar, M. M. Fleur de lis.

Second Coinage, One hundred and nineteen coins.

The ruff without the collar, and the king in armour. Of these there were nine different M. M's.

1st.	M. M.	Helmet	7	Coins
2nd.	M. M.	Long cross	11	do.
3rd.	M. M.	Castle	19	do.
4th.	M. M.	Anchor	16	do.
5th.	M. M.	Heart	27	do.
6th.	M. M.	Feathers (3 varieties)	25	do.
7th.	M. M.	Full blown rose	12	do.
8th.	M. M.	*Obv.* Anchor in the middle of the legend	1	do.
		Rev. Anchor		
9th.	M. M.	*Obv.* (none)		
		Rev. Rose	1	do.

The last two not mentioned in Snelling.

Third Coinage, One hundred and eight coins.

Falling band. Fifteen different M. M.

1st.	M. M.	Harp	7	do.
2nd.	M. M.	Portcullis	8	do.
3rd.	M. M.	Bell	7	do.
4th.	M. M.	Crown	11	do.
5th.	M. M.	Ton	5	do.
6th.	M. M.	Anchor	6	do.
7th.	M. M.	Triangle	3	do.
8th.	M. M.	Star of Six points	7	do.
9th.	M. M.	Triangle within a circle	31	do.
10th.	M. M.	P. within two semicircles	14	do.
11th.	M. M.	R. within two semi-circles	2	do.

12th. M. M. Eye 2 do.
13th. M. M. Sun 3 do.
14th. M. M. Full blown rose 1 do.
15th. M. M. *Obv.* Triangle within two semi-circles 1 do.
Rev. P. within two semi-circles.

The last two not mentioned in Snelling.

Not finding any coin with the sceptre M. M., it is probable these coins were buried in the year 1646. The sceptre being continued from this date to the end of his reign.

VI.

A VIEW OF THE SILVER COIN AND COINAGE OF GREAT BRITAIN, FROM THE YEAR 1662 TO 1837, &c. BY GEORGE MARSHALL.[1]

In the preface to this work, the author complains very justly of the deficiency which existed, and had long been felt by collectors of our milled silver coins, of any publication containing satisfactory information as to their varieties and dates. That deficiency he has ably supplied; having entered upon the undertaking with much experience, and completed it with carefulness and fidelity. His plan is perfectly simple, which, next to fulness and accuracy in the details, is the greatest merit of works of this description, as facility of reference is of essential importance.

The first part consists of historical and descriptive observations on the milled coinage in general, from the reign of

[1] London: John Hearne, 81, Strand.

Charles II. to the end of that of William IV. Under each denomination of coin, an account is given of the obverses and reverses, dates and varieties, particular inscriptions, together with remarks on important points, classifications as to rarity, and the amount coined during the respective reigns.

The second part, forming the bulk of the volume, contains an elaborate catalogue of all the coins with which the author is acquainted, arranged with perspicuity according to size, and in chronological order, each type being briefly but sufficiently specified. It is possible there may be some omissions, and, indeed, Mr. Marshall appears to be aware of this with respect to the Scotch milled coins; but we approve of his judgment in not noticing any varieties of type "but such as he knew to be correct, as by copying printed catalogues, he might only be perpetuating errors, and misleading his readers."

To the antiquarian collector, for whom the hammered money of our earlier sovereigns has a particular charm, the present publication may be deficient in interest; but many others will find it extremely useful, and all our numismatists will acknowledge it to form a valuable appendage to previous works on the national coinage.

Mr. M. gives us the following succinct account of the employment of the mill and screw, the introduction of which into our mint may be considered the commencement of the line of demarcation between ancient and modern English coins.

"The method of coining by the mill and screw was not admitted into our mint before the year 1564, when it was used, together with the old method of coining with the hammer, until the latter was wholly laid aside in the fourteenth year of Charles II. A. D. 1662.

"From that time only very trivial improvements had been made, until the powerful machinery invented by Messrs. Boulton and Watt was applied to the purposes of coining, and was introduced into the royal mint previous to the great re-coinage in the year 1816.

"The machinery for coining, with the mill and screw, was very simple, and consisted of a screw, to which an upper die was connected; this was worked by a fly, which forced that die, which was attached to it, with considerable effect upon the other die, which was firmly fixed below.

"The advantages of this machine over the old mode of striking with a hammer, consisted chiefly in the increase of force, which was so great as to raise the impression at one blow, by which a great waste of time and labour was prevented. Its radical defect was, that it was put in motion by the exertion of human strength; and as this would frequently vary in its application, there could be no certainty of uniformity of appearance in the coins.

"This defect is now completely obviated by the use of the steam engine, which, being at all times of an equal force, produces that uniformity of appearance which is so obvious in the coins struck at our mint since it has been introduced there."

We fully agree with Mr. M., that the omission of the royal arms on the shillings and sixpences of William IV. "cannot be considered an improvement, as they look more like tokens than coins." And as it seems we are not allowed to have historical devices on the coinage (though for what good reason we cannot say), the usual armorial shield is surely preferable to the supererogatory information, that a certain piece of money which we have always well known, is of the value of "ONE SHILLING." In fact, it is a stupid imitation of the French in their franc pieces since the Revolution, which are properly enough marked with the numerical values, because at that period they altered their mode of reckoning money, and adopted the decimal

system, which made important changes in the forms and weights of the currency.

Our author might have enlarged his enumeration of the pattern pieces struck at various periods; but considering how widely they must be dispersed among private cabinets, and how difficult it must be for an individual, however zealously disposed, to obtain access to, or correct information of, rarities under such circumstances, we cannot wonder at this partial defect; nor, indeed, can we estimate a pattern, curious as it may be, in any thing like the same degree that we do a coin which has formed a part of the legitimate currency of the nation.

VII.

ON A MODE OF ASCERTAINING THE PLACES TO WHICH ANCIENT BRITISH COINS BELONG.

It will be readily conceded, that in no branch of numismatic study has the advancement of our knowledge been more slow, than in that which relates to the well known coins which are usually, and I think properly, attributed to the Ancient Britons.

From the time of Camden (in whose Britannia the earliest notice of these coins is perhaps to be found), down to the period of the publication of Ruding's learned and elaborate Annals, so much diversity of opinion seems to have prevailed among numismatists concerning them, that we not only find preliminary questions left in doubt, but not even a foundation laid for their study.[1]

[1] Article XXVII in the first volume of the Numismatic Journal, affords, however, an agreeable proof that British coins

It is much to be regretted, that by far the greater portion of these coins are without inscriptions; and so ignorant are we of the places to which these uninscribed classes belong, that it is still considered by some, a matter of great doubt whether they are to be looked upon as British or Gaulish money.

The great difficulties, however, which oppose themselves, even to a preliminary study of these primitive and interesting coins, offer, in some respects, sufficient apology for this gloomy and unsatisfactory picture of the present state of our knowledge on the subject: we must not therefore omit distinctly to state, that it has not been drawn to discourage, but, on the contrary, to stimulate inquiry; our object being to endeavour to show the possibility of establishing, not only a tolerably correct geographical classification of ancient British coins by the discovery of the localities where they were current, but also, even the possibility of ultimately finding out at which towns they were most probably struck. At all events, to point out a ready mode of certainly distinguishing the coins of Britain from those of Gaul.

There appears also reason to believe, that whenever these data are firmly fixed, it may be possible to ground upon them many important elucidations and explanations of the types, notwithstanding that at first sight so many appear to be merely barbarous and imitative. Whether the uninscribed British coins are to be considered as regal or civic, is a question which must probably remain for ever

are not quite neglected. The views and observations of the writer of that article, as to the existence of British coins, and on the importance of remarking where they are found, are conceived in the right spirit, and it may be hoped will be followed up hereafter.

uncertain; but judging of the uninscribed coins, by those which have inscriptions—probably the true way of judging—they appear to be the money of petty princes or chieftains, struck in the principal town of their dominions, as the coins of Cunobeline were struck at Camulodanum. Partaking therefore of the double nature of regal and civic coins, a geographical classification of them will be the nearest possible approximation to the truth.

The interest which naturally attaches itself to the correct classification of uncertain coins, ought to be heightened in us by national feeling for those *found in our own country;* and it must be confessed to be high time that we should begin to furnish our successors with *gradually accumulating data concerning the finding of these coins,* so that in time they may arrive at some satisfactory conclusions as to the places to which they belong.

It is true that considerable industry, zeal, and learning have not been wanting in our predecessors, in collecting, engraving, and illustrating ancient British Coins, in the way which was thought the most useful; but it unfortunately appears that they have too often omitted to notice *the only circumstance* likely to lead to the discovery of the places to which the uninscribed coins belong; the few accounts of the finding of particular coins having been given incidentally, and never continued with any degree of order or method.

At first sight it no doubt appears to be quite unimportant to know where a coin was found; and it does not occur to the mind as possible, by any means, to discover the place where an uninscribed coin of remote antiquity was current, and probably struck. Even to ascertain merely the country to which such a coin belongs, may perhaps appear to be an almost equally hopeless attempt. Numismatic experience,

however, proves that we possess the means of attaining that knowledge; and however paradoxical the statement may appear, nothing is more certain than that the unknown place to which an uninscribed coin belongs, although apparently lost for ever in the darkness of by-gone ages, is yet discoverable by the very easy method already hinted at. *This consists simply, in observing at what place or places the coin is from time to time dug up.*

As this assertion may be new to some who may be reasonably presumed to be sceptical on this curious point, I will first venture to state the result of my individual experience of its truth, and afterwards bring forward, as briefly as possible, some of the evidence afforded by others.

Having had occasion to observe, during a residence of above six years at Smyrna, that I was much assisted in the classification of Greek coins, by knowing from what part of the country they had been brought, I acquired a habit of uniformly paying great attention to that circumstance. I was soon led to remark that, in a great variety of instances, many of the coins proved to belong to the places, or the neighbourhood of the places, at which they had been purchased of the peasants; and finally pursuing the hint thus obtained, by applying it to an approximate classification of coins of dubious attribution, I discovered by degrees, that when I could positively and *repeatedly* trace the finding of an uninscribed or uncertain coin to any given place, my subsequent observations invariably proved the coin to belong to that place, by the discovery of other coins which had inscriptions, or unequivocal resemblance in type, to coins which were well known.

These observations were not confined to my residence at Smyrna; for during the period of six years, already alluded

to, I visited Constantinople and its neighbourhood, and some parts of Bithynia and Mysia, the Troad and its neighbourhood, Thyatira, Sardis, Ephesus, Teos, Clazomene, Phocæa, Chios, Tenos, Syrus, Andrus, Ægina, Epidaurus, Argos, Sicyon, Corinth, Megara, Eleusis, and Athens. On a subsequent voyage from Smyrna to Athens, I visited Thebes, Tanagra, and other towns in Bœotia; and on my last voyage to Athens passed again through Corinth to Patras,—thence to Zante, Cephalonia, and Ithaca; to Sicily, where I visited Messina, Catania, and Syracuse; and finally Naples, Rome, and Florence.

At all these places (and many more) I collected coins; and during the whole of these journies I made observations on the collections of others (travellers as well as residents), and as a general result, I can safely testify that the finding, in each place, of the coins of that place, was fully proved by my personal observation, and seems to indicate that the circulation of the coinage of the ancients was, on the whole, very limited and local.[2]

It is most true, however, that there is nothing to prevent

[2] I make this as a general remark. The exceptions which might be offered to it are very few, and do not bear against my general position. I will mention the two greatest exceptions that have occurred to my own experience and observation. The first is the well-known silver didrachms of Corinth, and her numerous colonies in Epirus, Acarnania, &c. (*Obverse*, Helmet Head of Minerva.—*Reverse*, Pegasus.) These are found in such quantities in Sicily, that some peculiar event, in politics or commerce, must have occasioned the flow of these coins to that country; such as the annual payment of a tax to Syracuse, or perhaps a trade to Sicily for corn. The second example is the well-known gold coins of Cyzicus (Κυζικηνοι), which are very frequently found all over the Crimea, more so there than any where else, and probably owing also to a trade to that country for corn. At Cyzicus itself the place is now so deserted, and the coins naturally so rare, that they are no doubt very seldom found.

coins, from having been struck in one city, or country, and lost in another; and undoubtedly, nothing seems so likely to have happened—nay, our experience constantly shows us that it did happen—with the ancients as with ourselves, that coins were often lost very far from the places to which they belonged. This admission, nevertheless, if properly considered, does not militate against the fact which we wish to establish with regard to the finding of ancient coins; namely, that the *constant finding from time to time of any given coin, in a particular locality, will eventually prove that coin to belong to that locality.* It must be remarked that I lay great stress on *the constant finding, from time to time, at or near a given place;* and that this should be the fact, is, on reflection, a very natural conclusion; since coins must be found where they were lost, and would of course be far more abundantly lost where they were constantly current, than elsewhere. Hence, coins of Cunobeline are not found in France, or coins of Gaulish chieftains in England. I never saw in any cabinet or collection in Italy, Sicily, Greece, or Asia, any coins like those which we consider as ancient British coins.[3]

It may be here remarked, that the late most important and highly interesting discoveries of Bactrian and Indo-Scythian coins,[4] in such quantities, would never have been made, had no traveller ever visited the very spots where those coins were struck; and it is well known that the few

[3] The only English coin which ever fell under my observation abroad, under circumstances indicative of its having been *dug up there*, was a penny of Henry III. pierced and sewed to the cap of a Greek boy at Thebes, in Bœotia, among numerous ancient coins, the examination of which led me to discover it. It was probably lost at Thebes during some expedition to the Holy Land.

[4] See a valuable notice on this subject by Professor Wilson, in the Numismatic Journal, Vol. II. Article XVIII.

which we possessed previous to these discoveries, were always procured from those who had made overland journies from India to this country, and who had collected them during their passage through the ancient Bactrian territory.

In fact, the traveller who inquires for ancient coins in any country which he may visit, will remark, that, with the ancient money, as with the modern, he will find in each country the money of that country, and in each town the money of that town. In Greece and Asia, according to my own observations, the usual circulation of the ancient coins of the different cities of those countries appears to have been so local and confined, that I found a visit to the site of any ancient city almost sure to be rewarded by the acquisition of some of its coins; and it is a still more curious fact that, the constant finding of the known coins of a city at a particular spot, may actually assist the geographer in determining the unknown position of the city itself, as will be shown presently.

Pellerin, one of the greatest coin collectors and practical numismatists who ever lived, proves to us throughout all his voluminous works, how often he was guided in classing coins by knowing where they were found. His official situation[5] had no doubt early taught him to observe that ancient coins generally belonged to the locality from which they were brought to him.

It is evident from the instructions written by the celebrated Abbé Barthélemy[6] for M. Houel's use, while in Italy and Sicily, about the year 1777, that the learned

[5] The reader need not be reminded that Pellerin occupied a high official situation in the administration of the French navy.

[6] These instructions are preserved in the "Œuvres Diverses de J. J. Barthélemy." Paris: 2 vols. 8vo. 1823.

Abbé was completely aware of the importance of knowing where coins of dubious attribution are dug up.[7] Some parts of these instructions are so much in point, that I cannot avoid quoting verbatim. Speaking of coins with Phœnician inscriptions, which are found between Palermo and Agrigentum, and which interested him very much, he says,[8] "Si le hazard vous en faisait tomber entre les mains, je vous prie de les prendre, en vous informant de l'endroit où elles ont été trouvées." Again, speaking of the supposed site of Motya, where, according to Thucidydes, the Phœnicians built a town, he says,[9] "Il faudrait savoir si l'on y trouve des médailles Phéniciennes, et de quelle espèce?" Speaking of certain Punic coins often found at Malta, he begs M. Houel to purchase some, and adds,[10] "Demandez si c'est à Malte, ou à Gozzo, qu'on les trouve." In another place, after expressing his expectations that coins of the Locri Epizephyrii will be found in the neighbourhood of Gierani, between Rhegium and Tarentum, he adds,[11] "Il serait important de savoir si on trouve dans le même canton, des médailles de même métal et de même grandeur; qui, avec, ou sans, le nom des Locriens, représentent d'un côté la tête de Minerve, et de l'autre un cheval aîlé." Immediately after,[12] he evidently hints at the discovery of coins of Caulonia, in the neighbourhood of

[7] Those who will take the trouble to read through the instructions just referred to, will find that the Abbé Barthélemy directs the traveller to expect, at each town, to find some specimens of its ancient coinage, and specifies particularly that coins of the Lucanians and Bruttii will be found in traversing the country between Naples and Rhegium, at which place, as well as at Segesta, Selinus, Syracuse, Sybaris, Thurium, Siris, Heraclea, Metapontum, and Tarentum, coins of each place are found respectively.

[8] Ibid. p. 243.

[9] Ibid. p. 244.

[10] Ibid. p. 247.

[11] Ibid. p. 249.

[12] Ibid. p. 250.

Squillaci, as deciding the situation of the site of that city against the authority of Danville. And in the same page,[13] speaking of the Lacinian promontory, on which stood the city of Crotona, he adds, "Dans le même endroit doivent se trouver des médailles de Crotone." Lastly, he says,[14] "Entre Otrante et Brindes, au village de Martanna, suivant Riedezel (*Voyage en Sicile*, p. 219), on trouve quantité de médailles. Si elles sont Grecques, je vous prie d'en acquérir et de bien marquer l'endroit ou elles ont été trouvées." The learned writer of these instructions obviously expected by the coins to discover and fix the site of some ancient town situated at or near that village.

In the works of the numerous travellers who of late years have visited Greece, may be observed various incidental remarks tending to confirm the main point before us. It may suffice, however, to adduce a few passages from the classic and interesting pages of Dodwell.

At Castri (Delphi) out of eighty coins which he purchased, six were of Delphi,[15] although coins of this city are very rare. On the site of Orchomenus, in Bœotia, he purchased of a peasant two coins of that city,[16] and has engraved them in his work. In a subsequent page[17] he supplies us with an instance of the *inscribed* coins of a city, indicating its site. "Though many circumstances," says he, "lead us to suppose that these ruins are the remains of Thespia, no positive proof of it has yet occurred, nor has any inscription been discovered on the spot in which the name of the city is mentioned. A small village, called Leuka, is seen in the vicinity; the inhabitants of which, in

[13] Barthélemy. [14] Ibid. p. 253.
[15] Dodwell's Travels in Greece, vol. i. p. 191.
[16] Ibid. p. 232. [17] Ibid. p. 255.

tilling the ground, find a great many small copper coins of Thespia.[18] I bought several of them."

Shortly after[19] he gives woodcuts of seven silver coins which he purchased at Thebes, five of which are of Thebes, and the other two of Bœotian cities. We are also told of several Æginetan coins which he found at Ægina;[20] and when at Pharsalia he says, "We were offered some ancient coins of Pharsalia."[21] At Methana, in like manner he remarks, "We were fortunate in procuring, at this place, some autonomous coins of Methana, which had never been known to exist;"[22] of these he gives two wood engravings. Presently we find him at Megalopolis, observing, "We purchased from the villagers a considerable number of Arcadian coins, some of which were rare and well preserved. Those of Megalopolis," he adds, "are common,"[23] and proceeds to describe them: The coins of Stymphalus are very rare; but at Stymphalus, Dodwell bought a small one of that city.[24] It will be felt, that the preceding incidental observations, selected from the pages of an intelligent traveller, were elicited from him, as it were, undesignedly; and it can scarcely be doubted, had he travelled more directly with a numismatic object, that his remarks in confirmation of my general position would have been far more frequent, and occasionally even more conclusive.

Not to add unnecessarily to the preceding testimony, I will only adduce further the experience of the Abbate Ses-

[18] The coins alluded to are inscribed ΘΕΣΠΙΕΩΝ. See Pellerin, *Peuples et Villes*, vol. i. plate xxv. No. 24.
[19] Dodwell's Travels in Greece, vol. i. p. 274.
[20] Ibid. p. 573—4. [21] Ibid. vol. ii. p. 121.
[22] Ibid. p. 283. [23] Ibid. p. 375. [24] Ibid. p. 435.

tini,[25] the well known author of so many numismatic works, and that of M. Cousinery,[26] formerly French consul at Salonica. Both were celebrated numismatists, and highly competent judges of this matter, from their long practical experience in collecting coins in Greece and Asia. During frequent conversations which I had with them on the subject of the finding of coins, I learned with pleasure that they had long before made the same observations as myself. Indeed, the first four volumes of Sestini's "*Lettere e Dissertazioni Numismatiche*," &c., are mainly devoted to the correction of several old established erroneous attributions, which his observations during the very journies above mentioned, had enabled him to detect. "*Le provegnenze! Le provegnenze!*" uttered with a loud voice, and emphatic manner, was the accustomed exclamation of this zealous numismatist, in familiar conversation, when the classification of uncertain coins chanced to be the subject of discussion. He *coined* a word which does not unhappily express his idea, but which, without periphrasis, cannot be rendered in

[25] A short biographical notice of the Abbate Sestini, is to be found in the Numismatic Journal (Vol. II. p. 100), where mention is made of his journies in Asia Minor, &c., in consequence of his having been employed by the British ambassador at Constantinople, to collect coins. The greater part of these coins passed afterwards into the rich cabinets of Lord Northwick, and the late R. P. Knight, Esq.

[26] Notwithstanding that M. Cousinery spent all the leisure of a long [illegible] several valuable collections of Greek coins, and was a most experienced and skilful practical numismatist, he published but little. Some essays in the "Journal Encyclopédique" for 1807, 8, and 10, and his "Essai sur les Monnaies d'Argent de la Ligue Achéenne" (4to. Paris, 1825), together with his Travels in Macedonia, published afterwards, constitute, as far as my memory serves me, the whole of his published works.

His first and largest collection of Greek coins was disposed of to his Majesty the present king of Bavaria, while Prince Royal, I believe about 25 or 30 years ago, and forms the basis of the valuable Royal Collection at Munich.

English, or any modern language with which I am acquainted.

Recurring now to the practical application of these facts to the classification of ancient British, early Saxon, or any other coins of dubious attribution, it must be remarked, that the number of concurrent observations which will be required on most of the British coins, in consequence of their rarity and slow discovery, will offer peculiar difficulties.

No individual can be supposed to possess sufficiently extended means of making the requisite observations on the finding of any particular coin, with sufficient frequency to lead to any practical result. It is, therefore, necessary that the observations should not only be extended over the greatest possible area, but also should be continued for an indefinite period of time. This will require the prolonged cooperation of many; and, therefore, we may be said to require a series of recorded observations, informing us, henceforth, where every uninscribed ancient British or Saxon coin is found;[27] and it would add very much to the value of these observations, if they were to be extended to those coins also which have inscriptions; for we wish to be able to observe, whether the circumstances already so fully stated, with regard to the finding of Greek coins, hold good with those of our own country.

The notices or observations which are required, should be recorded in print,[28] and should specify the spot where the coins were dug up, with descriptions of such as can be described, and with wood-cuts of the uninscribed, done with

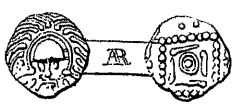
[27] I speak of single coins, rather than the discovery of hoards, although the latter are also highly interesting and important.

[28] This publication, being exclusively numismatic, offers peculiar advantages for the gradual accumulation of the observations required.

sufficient accuracy to enable us to recognize the types. The metal of which the coins are composed should be stated, and those of gold or silver should have the weights annexed in troy grains. It will be readily perceived that a series of observations, recorded as above recommended, will furnish progressively-accumulating evidence for proving *where and how often* each recurring coin has been found; and will enable us to observe whether they are mostly found in the counties on the coast, or in those more inland. We shall also see the extent of their range over the country, and whether any constant finding occurs in Ireland, in Scotland, or in Wales.

As example is better than precept, I now present the reader with a representation of the only uncertain coin which I ever found in England, under circumstances to warrant my offering it here as a practical illustration of the means I advocate, for discovering *at least* the locality in which uncertain coins were originally current: and till it can be shewn that the coins of our ancient British and Saxon ancestors were struck on the continent, and brought here for circulation, I make bold to conclude, that they were struck where they were current.

Weight,



12 grains.

This coin was picked up thirty years ago, at the foot of the cliffs which form the north coast of the Isle of Sheppey, near Minster, by a poor old woman who was employed in collecting the pyritous fossils which abound on that shore, and of whom I purchased it. The coin had no doubt fallen from the top of the cliff with the earth which is constantly

crumbling down; and belongs to the class of coins called Sceattæ, which are usually attributed to the county of Kent—an attribution which the finding of this coin tends to confirm.

To proceed, however, in the further explanation of the practical use which I wish to make of the recorded observations which I require, let us imagine that I had recorded the finding of my coin by the preceding woodcut and statement, thirty years ago, when the coin was found; and that, subsequently, each of the sceattæ engraved in Ruding's Annals had been discovered and the finding recorded, and that the whole had been collected in that valuable work. Let us suppose, further, that by far the greater portion of those which approximate in type to mine *had been found singly*, and *at certain intervals of time*, also in the Isle of Sheppey. Should we not, by this time, begin to be convinced that the earliest sceattæ belong to the Isle of Sheppey; especially if we had taken occasion to ascertain, in the mean time, that the cabinets of our brother numismatists in France, Belgium, Holland, or Denmark, furnished no examples of similar coins? If, instead of the Isle of Sheppey, we should have had occasion to observe that the finding of these coins took place in the immediate neighbourhood of Canterbury,—should we not be led to conclude that they were to be referred to that place? And, as the inscriptions on the later sceattæ prove them to be Saxon coins, and regal rather than civic, should we not conclude that the earlier ones were also coins of Saxon kings? I should infer further, from the discovery of these coins (provided the earlier were uniformly found in the Isle of Sheppey, and the later at Canterbury), that the first footing gained by the Saxons was in the Isle of Sheppey; and that afterwards they established themselves at Canterbury:

although it must be confessed, that any inference drawn from the finding of coins, beyond that of proving the places to which they belong, would require to be supported by the concurrent and undoubted testimony of so many accurate observations, and should be drawn with so much judgment and discrimination, that a long time must elapse before any such result can be hoped for.

To return, however, to the point before us; I proceed to remark that the finding of a sceatta of similar type in any other place or county, will not invalidate the attribution of these coins (under the circumstances already supposed) to the Isle of Sheppey or the city of Canterbury, except in a temporary manner; for if the coins really belong to either locality, the observations, if steadily persevered in for a sufficient length of time, will prove the finding of the coins (however slowly it may proceed) to be *constant* at the place to which they really belong, and of most rare and solitary occurrence elsewhere. Whether the coins be found often or seldom, will, of course, mainly depend on their abundance or rarity; for experience shows that some coins remain unique for a century or more; and consequently, on such coins, hardly one observation in a lifetime could be made.

Even under the most favourable circumstances, the lifetime of an individual affords but little scope for any practical results in classing, by these means, uncertain coins of rare occurrence. Hence mainly arises the cause of the ignorance in which we now find ourselves involved, with respect to ancient British coins; and hence my motive for stating in the beginning of this paper, that it is high time we should, at least, *begin* to furnish data for our successors in these pursuits.

Whatever may be the opinion of the reader, as to the

possibility of discovering by the method proposed in the preceding pages *the precise localities* to which ancient coins belong, it is presumed, that the most sceptical will scarcely hesitate to admit, that, by that method, at all events *the country* may be readily ascertained. It will be perceived, therefore, that mere comparison offers the ready means of distinguishing British from Gaulish coins, to which I alluded in the outset; for on an examination of the public collection of coins at Paris and that in the British Museum, it will appear, that certain primitive coins found in France, exhibit peculiarities of type and fabric not observable in those found in our own country, and *vice versâ*.

In conclusion, I must, however, beg to remark, that in expressing this opinion in favour of the possibility of establishing a geographical classification of uninscribed ancient British coins, I would not have it supposed that I mean to draw a strict comparison between uncertain ancient British coins and uncertain ancient Greek coins, or to assert that it is as easy, by the use of the means pointed out in this paper, to fix the geographical position of the former as of the latter. So far from this being the fact, it must be borne in mind, that with the Greeks, coinage was an original invention, which arose with the dawn of their commerce, at a period of considerable civilization, and kept pace with their gradual and truly remarkable advancement in the fine arts. We are consequently assisted in classing uninscribed Greek coins by many remarkable peculiarities in the style of work, as well as in the types themselves, for which there existed among the Greeks, as a people, an uniform and powerful *motive*.[29] The knowledge of all this,

[29] See a paper on this subject in the Numismatic Journal, Vol. I. Article XVIII.

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coupled with a knowledge of the finding, is of the utmost use and importance in the classification of primitive Greek coins. But with the coins of the ancient Britons, owing to their rude state, the case is so different, that it must be regarded as a dubious point, whether the representations on their money have any motive beyond that of *mere imitation*, or whether, when they adopted or established the art of coinage, they also adopted the system of connecting *peculiar and original notions with the representations which they put upon their money*. This is a question which I may perhaps discuss hereafter; but for the fulfilment of our present object it will suffice to add, that on account of the absence of any sufficient information concerning our semi-barbarous ancestors, and in the present state of our knowledge, in general, concerning their coins, we shall probably have nothing to rely upon to assist the classification, but *the mere finding*, aided perhaps a little by the weight, or by any peculiarity of fabric or type, of which future experience may enable us to avail ourselves. It is infinitely to be regretted, that in attempting to class ancient British coins, we shall never be able to perceive on them, as we do on the most early coins of Greece or Asia, the germ (as it were) of the later and more perfect coin, and be thereby enabled to recognize, however early the coin, that peculiarity of style and motive in the representation of a star or a tripod, which enables us to recognize a coin of Miletus or of Zacynthus, and to distinguish them from all other coins with stars or tripods; in like manner that the horse on coins of Erythræ, and the lion on coins of Cyzicus, are always recognizable and distinguishable from the horses and lions on all other coins.

These, and numberless similar powerful aids, which, in the classification of early Greek coins, serve at first as clues,

and afterwards as most agreeable and convincing proofs of the correctness of our classification, must be totally wanting with the semi-barbarous early coins of our own country. Nevertheless, we repeat that we see no reason for doubting the efficiency of the means pointed out, in fulfilling, by degrees, the object proposed; and, in making the attempt, we shall at least have the satisfaction of knowing, that we have adopted *the only mode now left to us* of discovering the true places to which the uncertain coins of our own country belong.

THOMAS BURGON.

Brunswick Square,
June 20, 1838.

VIII.

PISTRUCCI'S INVENTION: A LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

FOR some months past the attention of the public has been directed towards Mr. Pistrucci of the Royal Mint, by a series of unmanly attacks—for I cannot dignify them by the title of controversial letters—which have appeared from time to time in the Morning Chronicle; a journal which, enjoying the reputation of being the chief organ of the (so called) "liberal" party in politics, has, with singular tact and discrimination, been selected as the appropriate channel for the publication of letters, equally impotent and illiberal, on a subject connected with the fine arts. The leading topic of those letters is a remarkably simple method of producing dies, discovered by Mr. Pistrucci; and their object seems to have been two-fold. The ostensible object was to depreciate Pistrucci's invention. The real

object was to excite the odium of the public against its author.

Now I feel not a little disposed to consider the question in both its bearings—both as it regards the artist, and as it regards his work; persuaded that your pages, which have, I know not how advisedly, admitted harsh censures of Mr. Pistrucci's conduct, would also be the proper channel for his justification; but I leave to abler hands the task of refuting error and exposing ignorance. I shall confine myself to the ostensible object of the letters to which I have alluded; and, in so doing, I beg you will observe that I do not appear in the character of a controversialist; for as Pistrucci *has established* the practical utility of his invention; and its originality, after all that has been said, remains unimpeached, all *controversy* on the subject must be considered to be at an end.

Nor shall I offer any apology for thus troubling you with a few unprejudiced remarks on a subject which has elicited the expression of so much hostile feeling from so many; partly because you have shewn yourself interested in this question, by reprinting, among the miscellanea of your sixth number, a portion of the correspondence which had appeared on the subject in the journals of the day; and partly (which is my principal motive for addressing you), because I regard the invention itself as forming an era in numismatic art, and therefore of sufficient importance to be brought directly before numismatic readers.

I am unwilling to occupy much of your space; and have so long delayed fulfilling an intention long since formed (of requesting you to insert in your pages a description of the process alluded to), that want of leisure to be diffuse is now a cogent reason why I should be brief in my communication: but before describing Pistrucci's invention, and

stating concisely in what its novelty consists, I think it best to take a hasty review of what has already been written on the subject. In doing this, I will "bestow as little of my tediousness upon you," as I am able.

The attention of the public was first called to this subject by an announcement which appeared in the Times of August the 15th, 1837. It succinctly, but accurately detailed the nature of Pistrucci's invention, and glanced at the advantages which would probably result to the public from it. This was speedily followed by an ill-mannered reply in the Morning Chronicle, signed "English," but to which a very different signature should have been attached, since the letter in question was very *un*-English, both in style and sentiment. It spoke of the announcement which had been very modestly put forth in the Times, as a "puff direct;" and the invention itself was styled "a mare's nest." The writer asks, "Can there be a living man weak enough to suppose that the Signor believes himself to be the discoverer, in the face of the following facts?" and he proceeds to offer some statements, either incorrect or inconclusive; and then follows the usual insinuation about "the Waterloo medal,"—"the Signor,"—"the salary,"—"the *sinecural snuggery*," &c.

Very temperate, indeed, was the reply, which this rude letter elicited from the pen of Mr. W. R. Hamilton, a gentleman too well known for his taste and learning, as well as for his readiness to countenance merit (more especially when unprotected), to require praise from me, and in this place. He merely exposed some inconsistencies which the preceding letter had contained, and signed his reply with his name; for which manly proceeding, "English" (who continued to conceal his own) informed the public shortly after, in the columns of the same journal, that, in his

("English's") opinion, Mr. Hamilton had shewn "more zeal than discretion:" and he repeated the assertions contained in his former letter; adding a little more abuse of Pistrucci, of which (as might have been expected) Pistrucci's apologist came in for a share.

The announcement in the Times, above alluded to, was transferred to the columns of many of the leading journals and periodical publications of the day; and among the rest, to the Mechanic's Magazine for August 19th (No. 732), where it is to be found at the head of the "Notes and Notices" for the week. Some one rejoicing in the name of John Baddeley, made a sapient commentary upon it in the same publication, four weeks after; heading his article, "Mr. Pistrucci's Method of Medal-striking not new." But he either did not understand what he was writing about, or, although he may be, and very probably is, a well-intentioned and worthy mechanic, he is also a very simple one; for besides talking vaguely of "impressing dies with *a cast punch*" (which can hardly be said to be a definition of Pistrucci's method), he goes on to say, "the method was known and practised by my grandfather, *as far as it was practicable*, fifty years since;" and he adds, "it was carried to its utmost (*known*) extent in the coining of the old penny at Matthew Bolton's Mint, Soho, near Birmingham, in 1797:" all which is true enough in one sense, for Mr. John Baddeley's grandpapa may have done his very best, and "Matthew Bolton's mint, Soho, near Birmingham," may have done *its* very best; in other words, they may have availed themselves of the process in question as far as *they* deemed it practicable; and yet may, after all, have produced very sorry performances, for want of *that* which constitutes the merit and originality of Pistrucci's invention. The question, moreover, is not whether the

attempt to make a cast iron die, or a cast iron punch, ever entered into the mind of man; for nothing, on the contrary, seems more natural than such an attempt; at the same time nothing is more certain, than that such an attempt, without Pistrucci's precautions and essential improvements, would be abortive. The question is simply this—*Is Pistrucci's an original invention or not?*

Of a different complexion is a short paper by a Mr. *William* Baddeley, which appeared in the Mechanic's Magazine for Saturday, April the 21st, 1838, and in which, the composition of his namesake, which had appeared seven months before in the same publication, is very justly reviewed, and smartly commented on. He says, with great truth, alluding to those who had so industriously sought to depreciate Pistrucci's invention, "The line of argument pursued by all these parties is of a very remarkable character; inasmuch as they one and all set out by denying the *novelty* of the invention, and wind up by designating it as *absurd* and *impossible*." Nothing can be more just than this observation; and Mr. William Baddeley might have added, that those who do *not* designate it "as impossible" or "absurd," but stoutly maintain that the process in question is old as the hills, and as well known, omit, at all events, to explain why, with such a means of multiplying dies in our own power, we remain, with regard to this department of art, much in the same position as we were "sixty years since." Had Mr. William Baddeley's manly and eloquent vindication of an artist, whose greatest crime seems to be the accident of his birth under a bluer sky than ours, appeared in these pages, instead of the Mechanic's Magazine, I should, in fact, have had nothing to say; for I can add but little to what he has brought forward. I take leave of his letter (which contains, I believe, the last published remarks on the subject before us), with expressing my hearty

concurrence in all he has written, and my sincere admiration of his eloquent, manly, and *truly English* vindication of injured merit.

Now, Sir, it is no business of mine whether Mr. Hamilton should or should not have signed his name to the letters which he thought proper to write in defence of Pistrucci, "whose want of proficiency in our language," to borrow the words of the writer in the Mechanic's Magazine, "compels him to endure unanswered the base and cowardly insinuations of disappointed rivals." I do not appeal to you whether "English" ought or ought not to write rude letters; or whether A.Z.,[1]—A.S.S.,—or any other combination of initial letters of which our language is susceptible, should or should not pester the public with dull ones. Neither do I choose to discuss whether it would or would not be more gratifying to an Englishman's feelings to see native artists filling the several offices, and enjoying the several emoluments of the mint, instead of our having one Italian, and several Frenchmen, constantly employed there in the service of the country. I do not seek to interest you in any of these questions, for they are, one and all, foreign to the point before us. My only object is to call your attention to the main fact of the case: viz. that whereas, by the process hitherto adopted on similar occasions, Pistrucci would have been fourteen or fifteen months in producing *his* die, not an ordinary die, for the seal of the Duchy of Lancaster; he has succeeded by a method devised by himself, and pronounced *new* by some of the first mechanics of the day, in accomplishing his object in about as many days. His process I shall describe immediately; the result of it was, that after the seal had received upwards of one hundred and fifty blows from the most powerful press in the mint,

[1] Morning Chronicle, March 15, 1838.

the dies appeared, in every respect, the same as when first cast. No extension or abrasure of the metal had taken place, and they fitted no tighter in their bed after the operation than they did before. This position is incontrovertible, and none who have examined the seal of the duchy will deny its great merit and beauty. It bears, on the obverse, an equestrian figure of the Queen, in high relief, surrounded by a bold inscription; and on the reverse, the heraldic insignia of the duchy. The artist has succeeded in producing an original and beautiful work, though he was, of course, obliged to follow precedent, and adhere to established usage in the general design, as well as in the accessories of the seal of the duchy. The die in the custody of the chancellor of that department of the state, is of silver, and four inches in diameter.

Pistrucci's method is as follows:—He makes his design in wax or clay, imparting to his model the degree of finish he wishes finally to produce in metal: from this model a cast is made in plaster of Paris; which cast, having been hardened with drying oil, serves as a mould from which an impression is very carefully taken in fine sand. From this a cast is made in iron; which iron cast Pistrucci employs as his die. It is obvious that by a very slight modification of his process, either a die or a punch is obtained; as it may be his object to produce a medal, or a seal, as in the case of the Duchy of Lancaster.

The efficiency of this apparently unpromising contrivance depends on the following conditions and peculiarities:—The cast iron die, prepared as above, is made *extremely thin*,—not exceeding, perhaps, one eighth of an inch; by which means, not only a degree of sharpness is obtained, similar, though certainly inferior to that produced by the Berlin workmen (and when I state that Pistrucci is his own founder, this will not appear extraordinary); but a degree

of toughness and hardness, equal, if not superior to that of hardened steel, is acquired for the die, by its cooling in a mass, instead of cooling first on the two opposite surfaces, as is always the case with a large volume of metal, owing to the chill which necessarily affects the surface before extending to the interior; and of which the inevitable consequence is, that all the fine lines shrink, and the delicacy of the work becomes impaired, to say nothing of the fragility of the die itself produced under such conditions, which is an insurmountable bar to its utility.—The back of this thin cast-iron die is rendered mathematically smooth and even, and the edge made perfectly circular: and a corresponding circular hollow having been turned in a solid steel bed, into which the thin piece of cast-iron is inserted, all the advantages of weight, and solidity, are immediately imparted to it; at the same time that, owing to its thinness, it possesses, as already stated, the sharpness which could never have been imparted to an impression made in a thick or larger mass of metal.

It requires very little discrimination to perceive that by this invention a gigantic stride has been made. No reflective mind can fail to have lamented, that the expense attending all original works of art must ever limit their production; and, among the rest, to have been frequently struck with regret at the melancholy conviction that the expense consequent upon the great labour and consumption of time in executing a medal, offers an insurmountable bar to our progress in this beautiful department of the fine arts. But Pistrucci shews us how the impediment is to be surmounted. By his invention—process—contrivance, or by whatsoever other name, or names, his friends or his enemies may please to designate his cheap method of procuring a first-rate die—we shall be able to multiply medals bearing original designs at a comparatively trifling expence.

I call the die so produced "first-rate," because it must be obvious that, as it is a fac-simile of the wax model, the medal itself will also be a faithful representation of the same original; and in consequence, will exhibit all those delicate touches—will reflect all the feeling, and softness, and freedom of manipulation, which a good artist well knows how to impart to a plastic material such as wax, but which the rigid steel stubbornly resists, or unwillingly receives.

That a feeling of personal enmity against Pistrucci has suggested the unkind and ill-mannered diatribes which have been issued respecting his invention, cannot be doubted for a moment by any candid observer; for how has *he* acted with regard to the subject under consideration, that certain persons should "wag their tongues in noise so rude against him?" According to their own statement, all that can be urged against him on the present occasion is, that he is labouring under the error of supposing that he has made a discovery, whereas, say they, he has made no discovery at all; or, to quote the classic metaphor of "English," because he has had the misfortune to "discover a mare's nest." Surely a man is not to be abused and pelted with mud, because he announces, or because *it has been announced*, that he has had such notable good luck: surely he stands more in need of quiet commiseration than of noisy abuse, if, indeed, he *be* labouring under a delusion. Again I ask, how has he behaved with regard to his invention? Has he applied for a patent? and thus secured to himself the advantage that should accrue to him from his industry and ingenuity. No: he shows any one who pleases to see it, his die; and describes to any one who pleases to listen, the process by which he obtained it. And for this—this highly eminent and distinguished foreigner—an honour to the nation which has adopted him, is held up to public obloquy, as if he really had been guilty of some crime: and all the

bead-roll of old grievances gone over—the Waterloo medal (without exception the grandest work of modern times)—the Signor (no fault of his)—the salary (300*l.* a-year, I believe, with which he supports himself and his large family in Italy), and several other items connected with his personal history; respecting one and all of which, it may be truly said, that there are not half a dozen persons in London who are competent to offer any opinion at all.

In dismissing the subject, I cannot forbear remarking, that though by the process which Pistrucci employs, the art of die-sinking and engraving in steel will suffer, a far higher object—the advancement of *the art of design*—will be incalculably promoted: and I may not be far from the truth when I humbly offer it as an opinion, that we have at last discovered the means by which the ancients effected such wonders in this department of art. Their coinage presents two points of considerable difficulty; namely, its immense variety—considered collectively; and its exceeding beauty—considered individually. But it is a ready clue to the solution of both these difficulties, that they should have known a simple and expeditious method of producing a die; and that they should have possessed a means of transferring to the rigid iron punch, the softness of the plastic material to which the artist imparted his passing inspiration, and which he at once invested with the loveliness of his graceful and glorious fancy. J. W. B.

June 26, 1838.

[We insert the foregoing at the earnest request of our Correspondent, but here the matter *must* end. Mr. Pistrucci's advocate has been heard (he might have been heard before, if he had desired it); and the public will be the judges. We agree with our Correspondent that the opponents of Mr. Pistrucci have been too lavish of epithets; but this weakens the cause they advocate, and therefore requires no comment. On the other hand, we fear our Correspondent's language is calculated to provoke further discussion; but as we trust our columns will for the future be devoted to subjects of more interest, we announce, once for all, that no further notice will be taken of this controversy in the "Numismatic Chronicle."—Editor.]

MISCELLANIES.

DATES ON COINS.—The revival of the practice of placing dates on coins (*see the Numismatic Journal*, No. VIII) commences with a Tournois of Aix la Chapelle, dated MCCCLXXIIII. This very interesting coin has lately been published in the *Revue de la Numismatique Francaise* (No. 4, July and August, 1837). The coin is also is my cabinet, and is not very rare, being well known among the collectors of coins of the middle ages throughout Germany; and has already been published twice before, first in 1754, by the Jesuit Joseph Hartzheim, ("*Historia Rei Numariæ Coloniensis*," page 177, Tab. v. No. 15), and in Meyer's History of Aix la Chapelle, page 872, Tab. ii. (*Nummorum Aquisgranensium*, No. 27). However, the word Juncheit has not been explained in those works; neither is there an explanation given in the *Revue de la Numismatique Francaise*. I have lately seen a variety of types of this Tournois, in that unique collection of the coins of Treves, the property of Mr. Bohl at Coblentz, the learned author of the Monetary History of the Archbishoprick of Treves, a gentleman well known amongst the amateurs of Numismatology on the continent. He stated to me that the word Juncheit (Moneta Juncheit) might be given as an abbreviation of Junkern-heide (Junker's Heath) a place where the mint was erected.

In the French "*Revue*" that coin seems to be classed "*Monnoie des Pays-Bas;*" but surely Aix-la-Chapelle was, and is, a true German town, as we may read on the coins contemporary with Charlemagne; and until and after the era of our Tournois, *Aix* was always termed a metropolis, a residence of Charlemagne, a coronation town of the German emperors, &c. "Aquisgrani Caput Imperii; Urbs Aquensis Regia Sedes; Sedes Caroli Magni Imperatoris; Aquisgranum Caput Orbis," &c. There exists yet a poem contemporary with Charlemagne, wherein this great monarch is praised for what he had done for that city with regard to its embellishment.

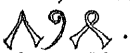
> Rex Carolus, caput orbis, Amor Populique Decusque,
> Europæ venerandus Apex, Pater optimus, Heros.
> Augustus, sed et urbe potens, ubi Roma secunda, &c.

In 796 Charles laid the foundation of the Cathedral, (Unſrer lieben Frauen Anno DCCXCVI). "Karolus solennem Basilicam

Aquisgrani in honorem Mariae fundavit, at cujus ædificationem a Roma et Ravenna solempnas (Säulen, Columpnas) marmoreas devehi mandavit gravibus expensis et laboribus. Auroque et argento et luminaribus atque ex aere solido cancellis et januis,[1] ornavit. Fecit autem ibi et palatium, quod nominaverat Lateranis, et collectis thesauris suis de regnis singulis in Aquis adduci praecepit. Fecit autem et opera multa et magna in codem." The monk Notker of St. Gall says also, that Charlemagne, having laid the foundation of the Basilica S. Dei Genitricis Aquisgrani, built also a bridge over the Rhine at Mayence, five hundred feet long, "Et pons apud Moguntiacam in Rheno quingentorum passum longitudinis." Aix la Chapelle was twice devastated and burned by the Normans, once in 851, and again in 881, when the Royal chapel was transformed into a stable. Now in Meyer's History of Aix, I have observed that, in the year 1372, the said town concluded a treaty of an union or junction with the Archbishoprick of Cologne, the Archbishoprick of Treves, and the town of Cologne (which had its coinage different from that of the Archbishop Frederick III Count of Saarwerden, who lived at that time in Bonn, and in open hostility to the people of Cologne) for a mutual conformity to the standard of the coinage. This junction seems to have lasted until the beginning of the fifteenth century.

In 1404, the coins of Aix la Chapelle bear again the proper name *Mōneta Aquensis*. I am therefore of opinion, that the word Juncheit, on the *Tournois* published in the *Revue Numismatique Française*, has no other signification than that the coin was struck during that junction; that *Juncta Societas*, which word *Juncta* was then teutonified into Juncheit, as one may say Geſund, Geſundheit—Frey, Freyheit. In 1417, a similar junction was made between Mayence, the Palatinate, Treves, and Cologne. Then the coins were named "*Moneta nova Renensis*," also referring to that Rhenish confederation. The following charter is given by Hartzheim, Cap. XL. "Anno 1417, Joannes Moguntinus,[2] Wernerus Trevirens,[3] Theodoricus Col.[4] A.A.A. Ludovicu-Palatin Electores Boppardiæ die Lunæ post Reminiscere mones talem congressum celebrant annos XX, duranturo fœdere monetario, Marca Coloniensis pro regula ponderis puri metalli et valores statuitur." In that now so rare and excellent work, „Kritiſche Beyträge zur Münzkunde des Mittelalters," by the late Reverend Abbé Joseph Mader, this interesting *Tournois* of Aix la Chapelle is also mentioned, but not explained.

[1] These bronze gates are yet preserved at that cathedral.
[2] John II, count of Nassau.
[3] Werner, baron of Falkenstein.
[4] Theodore, count of Moers.

Meyer has published a coin of Aix la Chapelle, bearing the date 1404 in the Arabic numerals: this is the earliest occurrence I know on coins. I have one of Charles the Bold, duke of Burgundy, dated with our present numerals, 1474. I have never yet met with an exact epoch given of the introduction of the Arabic numerals into Europe. Many times, in a solitary walk through the stupendous cathedral of Mayence, have I paused before that marble tablet which Charlemagne had erected to the memory of his first wife, Fastradana (a daughter of the count of Rotenburg). She had died at Frankfort in 774, was brought to Mayence, and buried in the church of St. Alban. After that church had been destroyed by fire, that remarkable marble was placed in the cathedral. It bears the date, seven hundred and ninety-four, in the Arabic numerals, . Now even if it were, as some suppose, a copy of the first tablet, I do not see why the merit of introducing the Arabic numerals into Europe should not be given to Charlemagne. It is not to be supposed that such a great, such a wise monarch, who conquered the Saracens in many a battle, and who must often have had prisoners and ambassadors of high distinction at his court, should have allowed an art of so much importance in the calligraphic science to have remained unnoticed. J. G. Pfister.

Forgeries.—That there have lately reappeared several imitations of interesting and rare coins of the Lombards; and as the price was only a trifle more than the intrinsic value of the metal, I bought some of them for my own inspection and comparison, and to mark the difference between genuine and fabricated coins. In Rome, for instance, I met with the famous gold solido of Lucca, "*Aistulfus Rex*," an imitation of the original coin—of which a specimen is in the British Museum. And I could not help smiling, when at Bologna (*La Grassa, Mater Studiorum*), at meeting with the coins. M. F. de Saulcy has lately published in the *Revue Numismatique* (March and April, 1838), as unique and curious monuments, "troués et usés, comme doivent l'être des pièces qui ont été portées en guise de reliques." Now I consider that the forgery of such coins cannot be done with a pecuniary view, but as a matter of jest. It is perhaps not generally known, that there are proofs of the existence of a species of learned men who are impediments to learning, and who amuse themselves with not merely having imitations sometimes made of scarce coins, but also by fabricating coins which never existed, and on which the the inscriptions and symbols are the inventions of the parched brains of those savans. The object of such miserable conduct seems apparently to be, to amuse themselves with observing what

numsimatists of sound understanding, but not on their guard, may afterwards describe them to be. Human nature is always liable to err; and numismatology, with its incalculable extent and variety, requires, perhaps, more practical knowledge and observation than any other science; therefore, such men by their pitiful conduct do more harm to that knowledge than Becker ever did. It thus becomes the duty of every lover of truth to endeavour to "confound their knavish tricks;" find the persons out; and to publish their names, without regard to the rank or station they hold in society.

J. G. PFISTER.

SCEATTAS.—Sir,—I am induced to send you a few remarks upon the coins called sceattas, in consequence of the light which has lately been thrown upon them, and which all tends to confirm a long-formed opinion, that they are the peculiar coinage of the kingdom of Northumbria.

The general resumblance these coins bear to the stycas, might have justified their appropriation to the same place of coinage, even had not the names of Aldfrith and Alchred occurred upon them; for surely it is more reasonable to suppose, that the latter name, on a coin published by Ruding, is that of the king of Northumbria, than of a moneyer; and to these, that of Huth has probably been lately added.

Two stumbling-blocks, in the way of showing that they did not of necessity, at any time, form part of the general circulation of the Saxon kingdoms, may be without difficulty removed;—the one, if, in reference to their being so often found in the Isle of Thanet, we reflect how frequently excursions into Northumbria by piratical Danes are recorded, and who always returned with their plunder to Thanet, where the coins were lost;—the other, arising from the occurrence of the names of Ethibert and Ecgberght, kings of Kent, may be explained by assigning the coins to the bishops of the same names, who filled the see of York from 734 to 780; and there is no reason why they should not have had the power of coining silver as well as copper: and the type, that of a full-length figure, holding in each hand a pastoral staff, is certainly that rather of a bishop than a warrior king.

It may be observed also, that the type of the sceattas is in general a dragon, or snake, or the part of one; and even that which is called a bird, may be that variety of dragon which has since been more accurately represented, and added to the natural history of heraldry, under the name of a *wivern;* and the cause of this may possibly be explained by a passage in the Saxon chronicle:—"Hoc anno, extiterant immania portenta per Northymbrorum terram, quæ populum istum miserè terruerunt; nempe, immodica fulgura, visi sunt item igniti dracones in ære volitantes: quæ quidem signa statim secuta est gravis fames."

"RUNES" also sometimes occurs upon these coins; and at the time they were coined, Northumbria was considered almost in the light of a Danish colony; but whether they are rightly called sceattas, or are a peculiar form of the Northumbrian penny, and that only a money of account, is another question, and one upon which no inference from the weight of the coins can be drawn, since these vary as much from the proper standard, as the penny itself does. I am, &c. &c. C. W. L.

CORONATION MEDAL.—We have been favoured with a sight of Mr. Pistrucci's forthcoming Coronation Medal, and have particular pleasure in offering him our tribute of applause on the great merit and beauty of his performance. It will be so shortly before the public, and will so surely meet with the admiration it deserves, that little needs to be said concerning it here. On the obverse we are presented with a portrait of the Queen, the most extraordinary in point of resemblance we remember to have yet witnessed. The head is crowned with a tiara, and veiled, which really is an agreeable and happy manner—the feeling with which on ancient coins the heads of queens are similarly represented, in allusion to their sacred character; the veil being the symbol of deification, in which character alone royal heads appear on ancient coins. The reverse of this medal resembles the reverse of that which celebrated the coronation of George IV. The three sister kingdoms press forward to present the sitting Queen with the crown, and over them is written: "*Et erimus tibi nobili regnum.*"

Fine and Rare Coins from the Collection of the late W. Bentham, Esq., F.S.A., sold at Sotheby's Auction Rooms, 30th April, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th May, 1838.

Lot.		£.	s.	d.
28	Cunobeline, a Head inscribed "Camul," *rev.* Vulcan seated, not in Ruding, very rare	8	10	0
40	Penny of Stephen and Henry, Plate 1. No. 30	16	0	0
55	Ditto of Richard III., struck by Bishop Rotherham	2	7	0
149	Half-groat of Edward VI., "Posui," &c. M. M. *Arrow*	8	2	6
153	Penny of Charles I., Exeter (query)	5	0	0
164	Groat of Perkin Warbeck	3	9	0
282	The Pudsey Sixpence of Elizabeth, an Escalop Shell on reverse	3	5	0
416	Shilling of Edward VI. (Head side different from Plate 5, No. 4. Snelling), *rev.* E. R. in field, &c. of good silver, weight 69 grs., very rare, if not unique	7	0	0
431	Ninepenny Piece of Oliver	4	16	0

		£	s.	d.
478	*Exurgat Half-crown* of James I.	14	15	0
490	Chester Half-crown of Charles I.	9	0	0
491	Worcester ditto ditto	2	15	0
493	Unknown Mint ditto ditto	9	0	0
543	Five Pound Piece of Charles I.	8	12	6
187	Half Noble of Richard II.	5	7	6
193	Angel of Henry VI.	7	17	6
296	George Noble of Henry VIII.	10	5	0
443	Edward VI. *Angel*, M. M. Dragon's Head.	17	15	0
552	Henry VII. *Sovereign*, Plate 11, No. 4.	5	0	0
555	Edward VI., Sovereign of his 4th year.	30	10	0
559	Elizabeth Noble, p. 5., No. 10.	6	17	6
564	James I. Noble, M. M. Rose, Plate 5.	10	15	0
565	Ditto Spur Rial, Lion supporting Arms.	15	0	0
581	George III., Two Guinea Piece, 1768	13	0	0
582	Ditto, Five ditto ditto, 1770.	32	0	0
135	Egberht, "Della Moneta," see Ruding, p. 14, No. 2.	10	5	0
139	Alfred, without Portrait, p. 15, No. 10.	4	13	0
140	Ditto with ditto, London in Monogram.	6	12	6
141	Edward the Elder, with building, p. 16, No. 20.	7	2	6
273	Hardycanute, with Head, *rev.* Two Crescents in the Cross, "Sieried on Lund," not in Ruding.	7	0	0
274	Ditto, without Head, struck at London.	5	7	6
206	Mary's Testoon, Young Head crowned, 1553.	31	0	0
210	Ditto ditto, with Portrait, 1562.	6	6	0
211	Ditto, Half Testoon, ditto.	4	5	0
332	James VI, Thirty Shilling Piece, Three Quarters Bust	4	0	0
92	James V, Bonnet Piece, 1540, p. 2, No. 9.	3	12	0
221	Mary's Ryal, with Portrait, 1555.	10	0	0
368	Commonwealth Farthing, "England's Farthing for necessary change."	2	9	0
369	Oliver's Farthing, his Head, *rev.* "Charitie and Change."	8	12	0
370	Pattern for Farthing, Rose crowned, *rev.* Arms, "Pro lege, grege et rege." Another inscribed, "Pray for the King," "Lord give thy blessing"	5	0	0
371	Charles II, a Pattern, Two C.'s and R. interlinked, *rev.* Four Sceptres.	4	1	0
546	Charles I, Pattern for Half Crown, by Briot, 1630.	7	7	0
	Commonwealth, ditto, by Ramage, inscribed "Truth and Peace" on the edge, size of a Sixpence, 1651.	8	5	0

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

The Society met on THURSDAY THE 15th MARCH—

Dr. Lee, President, in the Chair.

Presents of numismatic works and of some ancient coin moulds were announced.

I.

Coins of the New World.

Mr. Bollaert read to the meeting a Memoir on the Circulating Medium of the New World; from which it appears, that the Mexicans, though possessed of infinite riches in gems and the precious metals, used as coin the cocoa seed from which chocolate is made; while the Peruvians applied the pod of the *Uchu*, a large species of capsicum, to the same purpose. In Brazil, gold and precious stones were known to the natives merely as ornaments. After the conquest of these countries, the Spanish settlers were compelled to resort to cut money for a circulating medium. Gold and silver beaten out in thin strips, and cut into pieces, weighing each about an ounce, served the purposes of stamped money. A cross was imprinted on these pieces, which were denominated "Plata Macuquina," or cut money. Mr. Bollaert states, that as recently as the year 1829, he saw some of these coins in circulation in Peru and Chili. Copper coin, in any shape, was formerly unknown to the Spanish colonists; but in 1825, the Buenos-Ayreans adopted a small coin of that metal, which they called a *Decimo;* it is somewhat larger than a farthing, and was manufactured, it is supposed, in Birmingham. The first mint was established at Mexico; subsequently mints were set up at Potosi, Chili, Lima, Santa Fé de Bogota, and Guatemala. The coins then adopted were the following:—1. *La onza de oro*, or doubloon, weighing about 17 *dwts.* 8 *grs.* averaging in value, from 3*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* to 3*l.* 4*s.* 0*d*;—2. *La media onza*, half the foregoing;—3. *La quarta de onza*, escudo, or quarter of an ounce;—and 4. *La media quarta de onza*, or half quarter of an ounce. On one side was the portrait of the Spanish monarch; on

the other, the arms of Castille and Leon. The silver coins were: 1. *El peso duro, piastre*, hard dollar, piece of eight or Spanish dollar, value four shillings;—2. *El medio pesa*, half a dollar or four rials;—3. *Dos reales*, or two rials;—4. *Un real*, one rial;—5. *Media real*, or half rial;—6. *Un quartillio*, or quarter of a rial: the latter had, in the place of the bust, a lion on one side, and on the reverse, the value of the coin. The gold coins were alloyed with silver, the silver with copper; but of late, copper has been used in alloying the former, being found less expensive, and rendering the coins less liable to wear. Mr. Bollaert concluded his paper by referring to a MS. volume on the Coins of South America, arranged by Mr. Bult.

II.

Roman Coin Moulds. } A paper was read by the Rev. I. B. Reade, on the Roman Coin Moulds discovered at Lingwell Gate. The object of this paper was, to shew that the Roman emperors themselves resorted to casting, to supply their exhausted military coffers.

James Moyes, Esq. and
William Jerdan, Esq.
Were elected Members, and the Society adjourned to—

THURSDAY THE 26th APRIL.

Dr. Lee, President, in the Chair.

Presents of books and casts having been announced, Mr. Edward Hawkins read papers on the Coins of Northumbria (see our present number, page 1).

I.

Coins of Melita. } There were also read a Memoir on the Coins of Melita, by Mr. J. Belfour.

II.

Modern Greece. } Notes on the Coinage of Modern Greece, by Mr. L. J. H. Tonna.

III.

The Southend Treasure. } A Letter on the Gold Coins discovered at Southend, by Mr. J. D. Cuff (see our present number, page 30).

Davies Gilbert, Esq. was elected a Member of the Society.

The President announced to the Meeting, that a Committee had been appointed to draw up the Rules of the Society; and that Mr. Sergeant Scriven, Mr. Hobler, Mr. Mullins, and the Members of the Council, were engaged for that purpose. The Society then adjourned to—

THURSDAY THE 24th MAY.

Dr. Lee, President, in the Chair.

Presents were announced; among others, three medals from Count Dietrichstein, two of the illustrious author of the "Doctrina Numorum Veterum,"* and a third, in commemoration of the opening of the railway, from Vienna.

The Most Noble the Marquis of Bute,
George Glennie, Esq.
James White, Esq.
Montague Chambers, Esq.
Were elected Members of the Society.

Mr. Edward Hawkins read a Dissertation on the Coinage of the Ancient Britons, and the well known passage in Cæsar in allusion to their circulating medium. This will be found, at length, in our present number, page 13.

* A description of this medal will be found in the Numismatic Journal Vol. II. page 55.

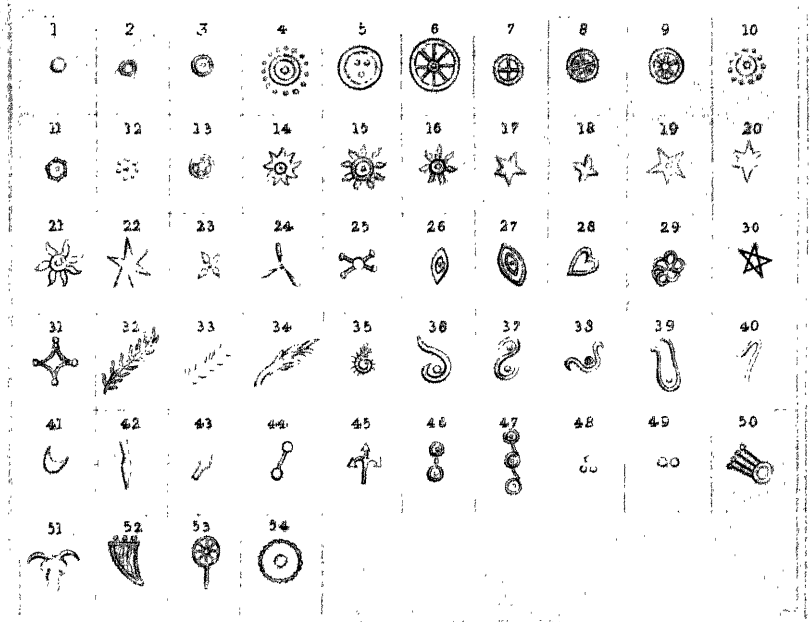
CORRESPONDENCE.

Our worthy Correspondent at Exeter has favoured us lately with several accounts of discoveries of Greek coins in that city. If our readers will credit it, there have been recently turned up coins of Chalcis, Zeugma, Antioch, Hierapolis, Clazomene, Samosata, Nicæa, and Alexandria!!! We should have written to our Correspondent on this subject, and endeavoured to convince him that he has been made the victim of a very gross fraud; but as statements relative to these "discoveries" have already appeared in print, we consider it to be our duty to declare thus publicly our total unbelief in the discovery of Greek coins in Exeter. Let us not for one moment be supposed, by this declaration, to question the veracity of our Correspondent: so zealous an antiquary would be incapable of falsehood or deceit: he therefore does not suspect it in others, who have taken advantage of his credulity. *There are no authenticated accounts of discoveries of Greek coins in Great Britain:* we have been at some pains to ascertain this fact. We no more question that our Correspondent saw the coins he describes dug up, than we are inclined to believe that he saw them first placed there by the workmen. He who is not aware of this trick, must either be a very young or a very near-sighted antiquary. Hundreds, nay thousands, of Roman coins have been found in London, but no Greek coin. The series of imperial Greek coins were for a long time neglected in this country, and indeed are still unintelligible to some collectors; added to this, they are for the most part (at least such as have reached this country) in very bad preservation, and unsightly in a cabinet. These, and refuse Roman coins, find purchasers at half a crown a dozen; and it is pretty well known what afterwards becomes of them. We have often seen coins with the types nearly obliterated, and which had perhaps been rubbing together in a little bag in the labourer's pocket for many weeks previously, sold to the curious by these rogues as then dug up on the spot. Among other relics, our Correspondent speaks of a coin of Agrigentum dug up close to the castle wall in 1812. We have had an impression of this very coin sent to us, from which we perceive that it is certainly of Agrigentum; but who will prove that it was brought to this island by the traders in tin? As to the countermark upon it, which our Correspondent supposes to be the head of a British prince, we have only to observe, that this head occurs as a countermark on many coins of Agrigentum discovered yearly on the site of that city; and that the discovery of a single coin in any place is not sufficient for the rational and enquiring antiquary.

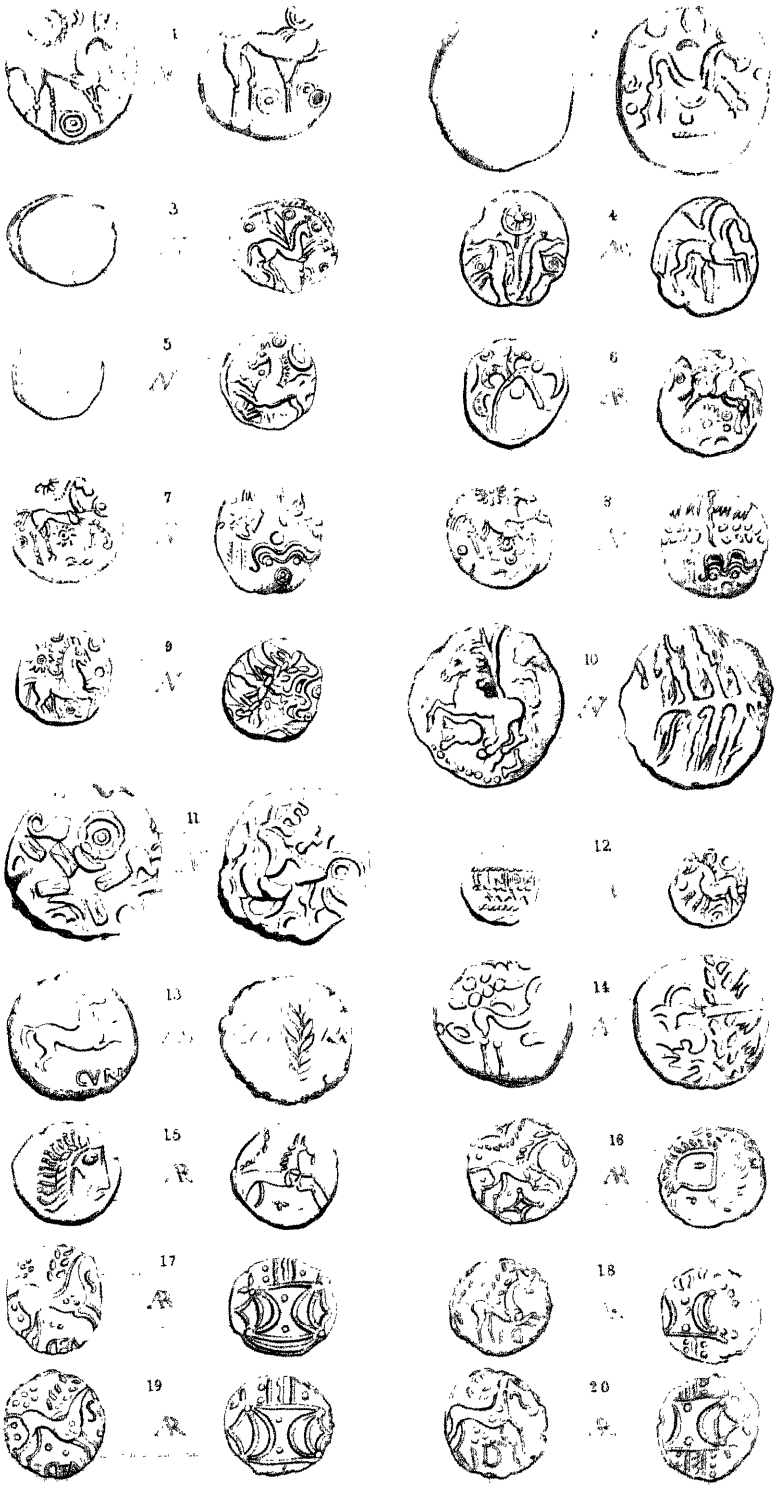
GAULISH



BRITISH



SUPERSTITIOUS SYMBOLS ON GAULISH & BRITISH COINS



ANCIENT BRITISH COINS

IX.

FURTHER OBSERVATIONS ON THE COINAGE OF THE ANCIENT BRITONS.

THE remark of a numismatist of long practical experience and sound knowledge, after an examination of the public collection of coins at Paris and in the British Museum, "that certain primitive coins found in France exhibit peculiarities of type and fabric not observable in those found in our own country [Britain], and *vice versâ*[1]," would be sufficient to arouse the attention of the numismatic antiquary, if his enquiries had not already been directed to the subject by the observations of those who were desirous of assigning these coins to their proper origin.

The interesting paper of Mr. Hawkins, read to the Numismatic Society, in May last[2], is well calculated to give a spur to these enquiries, since there is little doubt that the well known passage in Cæsar, in reference to the currency of the Britons, has suffered by the carelessness and the interpolations of transcribers, until its original meaning has been entirely changed. If the authenticity of the MS. quoted by that gentleman may be relied on,—and of this there appears to be no doubt,—the long disputed point is settled, and the existence of a coinage among the Britons previous to the arrival of their conquerors may be safely admitted. This question settled, our next care is to enquire into the possibility of identifying and classifying ancient British coins, by minutely comparing the types with those

[1] Numismatic Chronicle, Vol. I. p. 51.

[2] Ibid. Vol. I. p. 13. *Annals of the Coinage of Great Britain*, vol. i. p. 263.

of the Gauls, and by noting all particulars relating to the places of their discovery. The importance of attending to these inquiries is fully shewn by the paper of Mr. Hawkins, and the recent observations of Mr. Burgon, in the Numismatic Chronicle.

Ruding says, "If we proceed to examine the coins themselves, they furnish no proofs to justify their appropriation to any country." There were other means of ascertaining their origin; but these means were entirely neglected by the learned author of the "*Annals of the Coinage*," for, although his work is enriched by numerous engravings of British coins, he appears to have taken no pains to ascertain the places of their discovery[3].

Camden, in his "Britannia," after mentioning that coins of gold, silver and copper, of various sizes, and concave on one side, had been dug up in England in his time, adds, that they are "such as I have not yet learned to have been dug up anywhere else, till lately (1607) some such were found in France." It is very possible that this venerable antiquary had not made particular enquiries as to discoveries of somewhat similar coins on the Continent, or he would have learned that in France they were much more numerous. At this day they exist in immense numbers, of which the valuable and extensive list given by Mionnet is sufficient proof; and there is little doubt but that such pieces have, from time to time, been discovered in France long previous to the days of Camden.[4]

[3] In only one instance is the place of their discovery mentioned; namely, in the description of plate 2. No. 40, where he says, a large parcel of coins of a similar type were discovered near Colchester, in the year 1807.

[4] On this subject the forthcoming work of M. de la Saussaye, the learned editor of the "*Revue de la Numismatique*," will inform us.

Mr. Hawkins observes, that "the difficulty with regard to *brass* money is not so easily overcome," adding, that "the evidence of such having been discovered is very slight." With submission to this gentleman, brass coins have been discovered in England; and specimens shall, if possible, be given in illustration of these remarks. I refer more particularly to the remarkable example presented to me by Mr. Lindsay, which shall be noticed hereafter.

Remarking on the specimens given by Ruding, Mr. Hawkins says, of No. 51. plate 3. "it would be unsafe to speak confidently about No. 51. without seeing it; but if the cross be intended for the Christian symbol, it must be of a later date than the coins now looked for." I venture to contend that the piece in question is of Gaulish origin. I have not yet seen the cross on British coins; but it occurs very frequently on those discovered on the Continent. It is found on all those discovered at Quimper, in Britanny, a short time since; and as these pieces are evidently much older than the days of Cæsar, it can, I submit, have nothing to do with the symbol of our faith. The *gold* coin given by Ruding[5] also has the figure of a cross within a dotted circle[6]. On other specimens, in the same plate, the cross is placed within a square[7].

Mr. Hawkins continues; "Figure 53. is evidently of the same class as the gold ones, plate 2. fig. 22 to 30. whose British origin we should hesitate to admit, because we have no certain evidence of the disinterment of any in Britain, if we except those like fig. 46, 47, 48. which were found at Mount Batten, near Plymouth, in 1832. These he considers

[5] Plate 2. No. 26.

[6] This is the type supposed by Speed to commemorate the baptism of Lucius, a British prince.

[7] Nos. 22, 24, 27.

may have been brought there by traders, as they so much resemble those said to belong to Jersey. Fig. 52, he observes, is certainly British; a very positive assertion supported, however, by the fact that no coins of similar type have ever been discovered in France[8]. It appears doubtful whether No. 54. is of British origin; if so, the type has been more closely imitated from a Gaulish coin than was usual with the British artists, whose money, however fondly some antiquaries may cling to a contrary belief, was but copies of copies.

In support of this opinion, let us proceed to examine the the various objects represented on ancient British coins. On the very rudest, and, as may therefore be justly supposed, the earliest pieces, we discover an uncouth attempt to represent a human head[9], while the reverse bears the figure of some animal, which it would require the genius of a Stukeley or a Pegge to identify and name. These coins, in fact, offer nothing upon which the rational antiquary may safely venture to speculate; but their extremely barbarous execution warrants the conjecture that they are the very earliest attempts at coinage made by our rude ancestors. All these pieces belong to the *first* class of British coins; and it is possible that they are referable to a very remote period. If copied from less barbarous pieces, it would be difficult to point out their prototype.

[8] Fig. 44. is clearly of the same origin. I have a brass coin of this type plated with silver.

[9] See Ruding, plate 3. No. 65; and the Numismatic Journal, Vol. I. plate I. No. 1 & 2. The latter specimen is one of a number discovered in St. James' Park, and really appears like an attempt to imitate those in Ruding's 3rd plate, Nos. 55 to 64. and No. 66, which are certainly Gaulish coins, many such having been discovered repeatedly in France, while none, I believe, have ever been dug up in this country.

The second class, of which coins occur in the three metals, have more to interest, and consequently more to puzzle, the antiquary. On these we find the horse, the ear of barley, the sprig or branch, the crescent, the pentagon, and other objects, all of which are by some writers supposed to have been designed by the British moneyers, and intended by them to represent their peculiar customs, ceremonies, and superstitions.

The practised numismatist will smile at my endeavours to prove that such notions are erroneous; but these observations are addressed only to those who are inclined to the opinions of Stukeley and Pegge, and on this account are particularly insisted on; both these writers being by many of our countrymen, to this day, considered authorities on the subject of British coins[10]. Were I addressing the experienced numismatist alone, I need not allude to the practice among barbarous nations, of copying servilely, nor to their paying respect or adoration to the deities of the more civilized states with whom they were in intercourse. To such an extent has this been carried by some nations in modern times, that few can be ignorant of it; but one example will suffice for our purpose:—a recent traveller discovered in the house of a Chinese, a portrait of Our Saviour, to which the owner paid adoration. This one instance in a country the inhabitants of which are proverbial for their attachment to old customs and institutions, will serve better than a thousand examples selected from among a people less opposed to change.

[10] I a recent publication, one of these writers is cited, and a coin is quoted with the representation of the interior of an ancient British dwelling! Another worthy discovered in the seventh coin, in Ruding's first plate, *the ground plan of a city*, while a third pronounces it to be Exeter!

I cannot, however, forego noticing a remarkable instance in illustration of this proposition; namely, the imitation of a coin of Edward the Confessor, by one of the moneyers of Ifarz, king of Dublin[11]. Here we not only have an imitation of the type, but also of the legend—FREDNE·ON·EOFFR, *Fredne of York.* This might be accounted for in various ways; but it shews that at a much later period the coined money of those states which had made one step in the march of civilization, furnished, barbarous as it might be, the model to people less civilized.

The money of the Greeks abounds in illustrations of their religious worship and warlike habits; and it is from these that the moneyers of Gaul and Britain obtained the subjects for their coins, selecting such as were congenial to their rude fancies. Hence the horse at full gallop and the charioteer, are favourite representations on Gaulish and British Coins.

I would ask of those who doubt what is here advanced, and who believe that the British moneyers *designed* the subjects for their coins, how it happens that the moneyers of Cunobeline resorted to Greek and Roman coins for models, if at an earlier period the Britons were capable of designing subjects for their money?

Of the objects represented on British coins of the earliest class it would be difficult to speak, since we cannot be certain as to what they are intended to represent. The second class bear, for the most part, the representation of a horse at full gallop, with strange ornaments of various kinds, and many subordinate but distinct symbols, to which some persons attach an important signification. Let us examine some of these symbols separately.

[11] Numismatic Journal, vol.ii. p.50.

First appears the *wheel*. On looking over an extensive cabinet of Greek coins, we shall find that this symbol appears on the money of many cities of antiquity. On many of the specimens engraved in the work of the Marquis Lagoy on the coins of Massilia, &c.,[12] we find the wheel disposed in such a manner as leaves no doubt of its symbolical character. On one of the coins therein represented, it appears on *the helmet* of a galeated bust. Many of these pieces are such palpable attempts at imitation of the elegant coins of Marseilles, that the origin of the wheel on Gaulish coins can scarcely be doubted. But it would be going too far to suppose that the Gauls, in copying this symbol, intended it to express anything illustrative of their own particular religious rites. They probably copied it in the belief that it possessed some mystical character; and it was not the less sacred because it was not generally understood. We cannot doubt but that the Gauls were acquainted with the art of coining money, long previous to its being known to our rude ancestors; and it would appear that the British moneyers, in many instances, copied the types of the Gaulish coins, occasionally making alterations as their fancy dictated[13].

As regards the objects supposed by some to be the *sun* and *moon*, which appear as subordinate symbols on British coins, I have already endeavoured to account for their

[12] See a notice of this work in the Numismatic Journal, vol. ii. page 237.

[13] The greater part of these observations were written several months since. I had no communication with Mr. Hawkins on the subject, and was, therefore, agreeably surprised to find that that gentleman had taken the same view of these coins in his paper read at the meeting of the Numismatic Society, in May last. See the Numismatic Chronicle for July, 1838.

being adopted by a rude people, who would naturally revere the two great luminaries. Both these symbols occur on Greek coins; and the crescent is particularly common.

It would be difficult to account for the adoption of the *pentagon.* I say the adoption of this symbol, for it may be confidently asserted, that they were not *designed* by either the Gaulish or British moneyers. The same symbol occurs on many Greek coins[14], and on the parts of the early asses[15].

To recur again to the *wheel,* to which so much importance has been attached by our English antiquaries, and, indeed, by those on the continent;—an inspection of the plates in illustration of the Marquis Lagoy's work, will convince the most sceptical that it originated with the Gauls, and that it was copied by their moneyers from the coins of Massilia.

On many Gaulish and British coins, we have an object which appears like an unfinished wheel, but whether it is intended for that symbol, or merely a rude imitation of the *theta* on Greek coins, cannot be determined. Numismatists will not require to be reminded, that the ancient theta is often formed of a circle with a dot or pellet in the centre.[16]

Sometimes, instead of a wheel, we have merely an annulet. On many coins we have a circle of dots or pellets with a a pellet in the centre. On· others, a pellet is placed between the spokes of the wheel.[17] Some of those given by Ruding, bear the annulet with a pellet in the centre, the whole surrounded by a circle of dots.

On some British coins, the scull of an horned animal appears in the field; but we cannot venture to assert that

[14] See those of Velia. [15] See the Roman Unciæ.
[16] See the coins of Athens, Bœotia, &c.
[17] See the plate of symbols, in illustration of these observations,

this symbol has any reference whatever to the religious ceremonies of the Britons. The reason of its adoption must be left to conjecture: in the mean time we know that this symbol occurs on many Greek coins, and that on some of those of Corcyra, it occupies the whole of the field of the reverse.

There are two subordinate symbols on our ancient British coins, to which antiquaries less fanciful than Stukeley, and Pegge, might be tempted to assign a particular meaning. I refer to Nos. 50 and 52, in the plate which illustrates these remarks. We might, on a casual inspection of these objects, pronounce them to be representations of musical instruments, did we not know that others which occur more frequently are attempts to imitate objects which appear on Greek coins. No. 50 appears on both Gaulish and British coins as well as on those discovered in the Channel islands, and may possibly be intended for a lyre. Symbol No. 44 invariably occurs on coins similar to that figured in Ruding, plate 3; Nos. 44 and 52. Some writers have described them as the Druidical tallies, but have advanced nothing to substantiate such an opinion; an opinion founded upon mere conjecture.

Symbol 43 is the head of a spear; an object which occurs on but one British coin.[18] The same symbol appears on coins of Greek cities.

I shall reserve for some future paper, my remarks on the other subordinate symbols occurring on British coins.

In my former observations I described, and engraved one of a number of coins found in Yorkshire in the year 1829.[19] I can now give the particulars of their discovery, which have been obligingly communicated to me by Mr. Cuff.

[18] Numismatic Journal, British Coins, plate i. No. 11.
[19] Ibid. plate i. No. 10.

The Reverend William Lund, in a letter to that gentleman, says, that these remarkable coins, which differ materially from all others of this class, were discovered at Almondbury, the Cambodunum of the Romans, and one of their first settlements in that part of the island. There were sixteen or eighteen in number, and along with them were two hundred family coins, a few of which were in tolerable preservation, but the greater part nearly worn smooth by circulation. Mr. Lund, in describing these coins, justly remarks, that they cannot be later than the time of the emperors; an inference which must be allowed, from the circumstance of their being found with denarii of the consular series. Another circumstance worthy of remark, is, that the letters which occur on these coins are formed exactly like those on many of the early Roman denarii, particularly those of Antony and Augustus, and Augustus and Lepidus, the ends terminating in dots. The coins, too, are convex and concave, like many of the consular denarii; and from this peculiarity alone, may reasonably be assigned to a period at least as early as that of the first Dictator. If this be allowed, another question arises; namely, if the Britons were really not acquainted with the art of coining money when Cæsar arrived in this island, is it probable that they immediately after his departure created a stamped currency? Such a conjecture can scarcely be allowed by those who reflect that Cæsar's visit was hostile, and that the Roman legions were constantly occupied during their short stay in Britain. The coining of money was doubtless adopted by the Britons, in consequence of their intercourse with the Gaulish merchants; but, in all probability, we shall never obtain numismatic evidence as to the exact period when it was first resorted to.

A numismatic friend who has looked over these sheets

remarks, that I am taking an unpopular view of this subject, and that if I should succeed in establishing such opinions, British coins would no longer be so highly valued. On this I have merely to observe, that I do not think the fact of British coins being copies of the money of the Greeks and Gauls, ought to render them worthless in the eyes of our collectors. On the contrary, by diligent examination, we shall probably in the course of time be enabled to appropriate them to particular periods and places, by comparing them with those pieces from which they may be supposed to have been imitated.

It must be obvious to all who have paid the least attention to this subject, that British coins not only vary in style and execution from those of the Gauls, but that many of them differ so materially from each other, as to leave not a doubt of their having been minted in various parts of the island, perhaps at distant periods, but at any rate in places far distant from each other.

Let us see how far this assertion is verified by recent discoveries of British coins.

The very singular gold coins of large module and peculiar type, found in Yorkshire[20], are unlike all others of the series. They evidently belong to a part of Britain remote from the southern counties, where pieces of a very different description are more frequently found.

The coins bearing the two crescents placed back to back[21] are also peculiar, and have been discovered in Norfolk and in Cambridgeshire.

Those pieces which bear a number of small objects scattered over the field[22], are found only in the counties of Sussex,

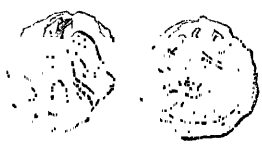
[20] See the Numismatic Journal, vol. i. plate 1; British coins, No. 10.

[21] Ibid. plate 2, Nos. 1 and 2.

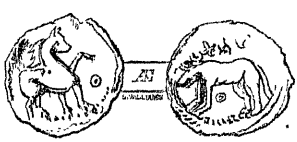
[22] Ibid, plate 1, No. 9. and Ruding, plate 3, Nos. 44 and 52.

Hampshire, Dorsetshire, Devonshire and Cornwall[23], and are quite distinct in type and fabric from all other British coins. On the coast of Kent, and in the Isle of Wight, are discovered the coins numbered 1 to 4 in Ruding's first plate. Similar coins have been dug up on the opposite coast; and it is at present difficult to determine to which country they belong.

Coins of evident Gaulish origin are often discovered in Kent, and furnish proof of the intercourse which the inhabitants of that county had with the Gauls. A short time since, a gold coin was discovered at Sandwich, with the type of a horseman bearing a palm-branch; reverse, a victory, also bearing a branch, and the legend IPPI · COM.[24] The same legend occurs on a brass coin dug up near Kits Coty House, for a drawing of which I am indebted to Mr. Edward Pretty, of Northampton.



At the same time and place another coin of brass was discovered, which, like the former, is evidently Gaulish.



[23] With *one* exception, as noticed in my former observations; namely, in *Oxfordshire*, if Borlase, who is my authority, was himself correctly informed. The finding a solitary coin is, however, unimportant; but when the finding frequently occurs in the same place, evidence is at once afforded, on which the antiquary may rest his hope of a correct attribution.

[24] In the belief that this coin is of Gaulish origin, I forwarded the cast kindly sent me by Mr. Rolfe, of Sandwich, to M. de la

It is worthy of remark, that two coins of different metals and types, recently found in Kent, bear the legends IPPI·COM. and IPPI·COMI. M. de la Saussaye, remarking on the coin discovered at Sandwich, observes, that it bears a strong resemblance to the Gaulish imitations of Greek coins; particularly of those of Philip II. of Macedon, and that in all probability the letters IPPI are but one of the ordinary alterations of the word ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ.[25] "If, however," he continues, we are to look for the name of a Gaulish chief in these letters, it may possibly be that of Commius, king of the Atrebati[26], the ally of Cæsar. We are strongly inclined to believe that it is in reality a coin of that gallant and ill-used chief; and until evidence shall be acquired to warrant a different attribution, it is excluded from the list of British coins.

The plates which accompany these remarks, contain representations of unpublished coins, several of which are entirely new. In describing them, I shall give such particulars as I have been enabled to obtain and authenticate, respecting the places of their discovery, the most important circumstance connected with our enquiry. The evident variations in the types, or rather, as Mr. Hawkins observes, in "the treatment of the types," is so apparent that there cannot be a doubt as to their belonging to different parts of the island, and of their issue at distinct intervals of time.

In plate 2 of my former observations[27], two coins are given with a very singular type. The first is of gold, and was discovered at Oxnead, in Norfolk. The second of

Saussaye, editor of the "Revue de la Numismatique Française,' whose forthcoming work will contain engravings of more than one thousand Gaulish coins.

[25] Revue de la Numismatique Française, Année 1837, p. 470.

[26] Cæsar, De Bello Gallico, lib. v.

[27] Numismatic Journal, vol. i.

silver, and, like the former, bearing on the reverse two crescents placed back to back, differing, however, from those on the gold coin.[28] But the most extraordinary resemblance between these two coins, is the manner in which the head of the horse, and indeed, the whole figure of that animal, is formed. Since the publication of this last coin, three others of the same type have been presented to the Numismatic Society, by the Reverend Mr. Reade, who informs us that they were discovered in Cambridgeshire, the county adjoining that in which the gold coin was found.

Much remains to be done for the series of ancient British coins; but a good deal may be effected by our English numismatists, if they will carefully attend to the instructions already given them. By noting every circumstance regarding the places in which these pieces are discovered, and by diligent comparison of the metals, types, and weights, of the respective examples, there is little doubt that they may, ere long, be assigned to particular districts with as much certainty as many uninscribed coins are at present arranged and appropriated to Greek cities.

Description of the Plates.

Plate 1. Symbols on Gaulish and British Coins.—A glance at the symbols given in this plate will suffice to shew, that in several instances they are copies of the same objects by the people of two countries; while it will be obvious that in many respects the British symbols differ from those found on Gaulish coins. It is well worthy of remark, that none of the varieties of the *cross*, so often found on

[28] The coin given by Ruding, plate 2, No. 32, is evidently of the same origin. There are the two crescents placed back to back, and the horse and subordinate symbols, as on the specimens engraved in the accompanying plates, but of ruder execution.

Gaulish coins, are met with on those pieces which are believed to be British, and which are found in this country alone, though it perpetually occurs on those discovered on the continent. It is possible that with the discovery of new types, additional subordinate symbols may be found; but the engravings here given may be of much service to the inquiry now instituted, and save, by reference to the numbers, the trouble of giving a description, which, after all, can only convey an imperfect idea of the object.

PLATE II.

No. 1. A *silver* coin.—*Obverse.* The rude figure of a horse standing to the right: above, symbol No. 54, below symbol No. 3.—*Rev.* An uncouth, and apparently unfinished representation of some animal, probably a horse, standing to the right: below, two representations of the symbol No. 3. *Weight* 18½ *grains.* (*Cabinet of Mr. Lucas.*)

No. 2. A *gold* coin discovered on the south-east coast of the Isle of Wight, between Sandown and the White Cliff, after a founder of earth. *Obverse.* Plain and convex. *Rev.* A rude figure of a horse galloping to the right: in the field various ill-defined symbols. Weight 94 grains. Cabinet of Archdeacon Hill, of Shanklin, Isle of Wight. Communicated by Mr. C. R. Smith.

No. 3. A *gold* coin, found on the wharf near the Adelaide Hotel, London Bridge, in soil originally brought from the bed of the Thames. *Obverse.* Plain and convex. *Rev.* A winged horse, or Pegasus, caracoling to the right. The head appears to be surmounted by a cross, and the symbol No. 2 occurs four times in the place of a legend; (20 grains. Cabinet of Mr. C. R. Smith). *Doubtful if British.*

No. 4. *Copper. Obverse.* Two animals resembling hogs: above, symbol No. 53, and under each animal, symbol No. 2. *Reverse.* A horse galloping to the right before an object apparently intended for a tree.

This remarkable coin was presented to me by Mr. John Lindsay, of Cork, a gentleman well known for his numismatic acquirements, who states that it was found at or near Liverpool, with other British coins, a short time since. Looking at the obverse, as it is now represented in the plate, the figures at the first glance appear to be horses separating to the right and left; but on further examina-

tion, *by holding the plate sideways*, it will be seen that they are intended for some other animals, and that they are probably meant for hogs, such objects being often represented on Gaulish coins in a somewhat similar manner. The head of one of the animals, it should be observed, is shaped like that of the figure on the reverse of No. 1. There is every reason to believe this coin is of British origin; and the singularity of its type, coupled with the circumstance of its discovery in a part of the country remote from the places where most British coins are dug up, deserves especial notice.

No. 5. *Gold. Obverse.* Plain. *Reverse.* A horse galloping to the left: below VAI: above, symbol No. 2; and another symbol indistinct. (*Cabinet of Mr. Loscombe*).

No. 6 *Silver. Obverse.* The rude outline of a human head, crowned with a diadem, to the right; above, some indistinct symbol. *Reverse.* A horse galloping, to the left. In the field, the symbols Nos. 2 and 14. (*Cabinet of Mr. Loscombe.*)

No. 7. *Gold.* Found near Chichester. *Obverse.* Concave. A horse galloping to the right: in the field symbols, Nos. 14, 3, and 2, the first occurring twice. *Reverse.* Convex. A wreath extending across the field, with other figures, the whole probably intended to form one object. Weight 19½ grains. Cabinet of Mr. Elliott, Chichester.

No. 8. *Gold.* Found near Chichester. Type resembling the preceeding. Weight 20½ grains. Cabinet of Mr. Elliott.

No. 9. *Gold.* A similar type to the preceding.* With the same symbols in the field.

No. 10. *Gold.* Found on Enfield Chase. *Obverse.* A horse galloping to the left: behind, a rude figure, intended probably for the driver: beneath, the symbol No. 50, and the letter V? *Reverse.* An object perhaps intended for a leaf, occupying the whole of the field of the coin. Communicated by Mr. Stothard.

This coin resembles very closely No. 7, Plate 1, in Ruding, the reverse being better defined. That figured in Ruding is the coin supposed by Polwhele to bear a representation of the ground-plan of Exeter! Such an idea, of course, does not require serious refutation; but it should be observed, that there is every reason to be-

* A coin resembling No. 7, 8, and 9, was found at Andover a short time since.

lieve, that the coins bearing this type were minted in a part of the island far remote from that city. Future discoveries will in all probability justify their appropriation to London and its neighbourhood.

No. 11. *Gold.* One of the hoard discovered at Almondbury, in Yorkshire, and apparently differing in type from the rest, merely in the extreme rudeness of its execution.—See the *Numismatic Journal,* Vol. I.

No. 12. *Gold. Obverse.*  written in two lines across the field, between three beaded lines. *Reverse.* A horse to the left with symbol No. 2, in the field. (*Cabinet of Mr. Loscombe*).

The legend on the obverse would appear to be a barbarous attempt to give the name CVNOBELINE; and it is not improbable that the coin was imitated from one similar to that in Ruding, Plate 4. No. 13 and 14. The place of its discovery is unfortunately not known.

No. 13. *Copper,* found in the bed of the Thames, near London Bridge. *Obverse.* A horse galloping to the right: below, the letters CVN. *Reverse.* An ear of barley; across the field, the letters CAM. Weight 55 grains. (*Cabinet of Mr. C. R. Smith*).

The only brass coin of Cunobeline with this type I have seen. A similar type is of frequent occurrence in gold. See Ruding, Plate 4, Nos. 1 to 7.

No. 14. *Gold,* found with many others, in a field at Haverhill, in Suffolk, about twenty years since. The workmanship of this coin is barbarous, and scarcely admits of a description. Communicated by Mr. F. Hobler.

No. 15. *Silver.** Found at Battle, in Sussex, with many others. *Obverse.* A rudely drawn head to the right. *Reverse.* A horse galloping to the right; the head resembling a griffin's; below, the remains of symbol No. 31; above, an indistinct symbol. Weight 18 grains. (*Cabinet of Mr. C. R. Smith*).

No. 16. *Silver.* Dug up at March, in Cambridgeshire, with Nos. 18, 19 and 20, which, with about forty others of a similar description, had been deposited in a small earthen vessel. A similar type, † but evidently from a different die; weight 19 grains. (*Collection of the Numismatic Society*).

* The material of which ancient British coins is composed, is more properly termed by the French potin, being much alloyed with other metals.

† It is worthy of observation, that on the forequarter of the horse there

No. 17. *Silver.* Found at Battle. *Obverse.* The letters CEA. A horse galloping to the right, with three pellets on its fore-quarter; above, a branch, and the symbol No. 12. *Reverse.* Two crescents placed back to back in a kind of compartment; between the crescents, two pellets. Weight 19 grains. (*Collection of the Numismatic Society*).

No. 18. *Silver.* Found at March. *Obverse.* The letters IC. A horse galloping to the right: above, symbol 33. *Reverse.* A similar type to that of No. 17. (*Collection of the Numismatic Society*).

No. 19. *Silver.* Found at March, resembling the former, but in perfect preservation. Symbols Nos. 12 and 32, appear above the horse, and below are three characters, which appear to be CPAI Weight 18 grains. (*Collection of the Numismatic Society*).

No. 20. *Silver.* Found at March. A somewhat similar type, but of ruder execution; the characters appear to be the same as those on the preceding coin. On the fore-quarter of the horse are three pellets or studs. Weight 19 grains. (*Collection of the Numismatic Society*).

I cannot conclude these observations without again impressing on the minds of those who are interested in investigating the origin of these interesting coins, the absolute and imperative necessity of ascertaining *beyond a doubt* the places of their discovery. In doing this, I shall adopt the words of a numismatist of great practical knowledge and matured judgment. "The actual place of finding should be ascertained and certified on good authority; *no hearsay, but well authenticated facts of the finding.* One blunder or misstatement, whether accidental or designed, may do more harm than would be supposed, for it will require three or four truths to upset and neutralize or nullify the falsehood, and three or four more to establish the position." J. Y. A.

Peckham, August 20th, 1838.

are three objects placed in the form of a triangle; that on Nos. 17, 19, and 20 there are three dots or pellets, (as symbol 48); and that on No. 18, the three pellets are conjoined, and resemble a trefoil. These three pellets so often occur on British coins, that they are placed in the list of subordinate symbols.

X.

TRÉSOR DE NUMISMATIQUE ET DE GLYPTIQUE.

Folio. Paris, 1834—1837.

PART I.—ANCIENT MONUMENTS.

IF it be a well-founded complaint[1] that many writers who have professedly contributed towards that important chapter in the narrative of progressive civilisation—the history of the Fine Arts—have been busily weaving erudite speculations with materials in great part *literary*, when they would have been better employed in helping to collect the remaining monuments of the arts themselves, and suffering *them* to speak; if this be true, then the appearance of every really judicious collection of these veritable materials ought to meet with especial welcome.

Such a collection we take to be the work, or rather series of works, now in course of publication at Paris, under the above title; and as such we welcome it. It consists of representations of multifarious objects of art, but chiefly of medals, coins, and gems, engraved by the process known as that of Achilles Collas, and which has been more than once noticed in the pages of the Numismatic Journal.

The *Trésor de Numismatique et de Glyptique*, has been divided by its editors into three principal classes:—1. Monuments illustrative of ancient art. 2. Those illustrative of the art of the middle ages, and of modern history. 3. Those of contemporaneous history. We shall confine our present brief notice to the principal works comprised within

[1] See D'Agincourt, *Histoire de l' Art par les Monumens.*

the first class, that of ancient art; and we begin with the NEW MYTHOLOGICAL GALLERY (*Nouveau Gallerie Mythologique*), edited by M. Lenormant, one of the most important of the series, although last in course of publication. The object of this work is to collect all medals and gems illustrative of the ancient religions of Greece and Rome, together with such bas-reliefs, terra cottas, ivory carvings, and jewels, *wherever preserved*, as may be found to contribute to the same purpose. "In order," says the learned editor, in his introduction, "to render our book useful and convenient to all, in what way soever accustomed to regard the ancient religions, we have arranged the monuments we publish in the manner most conformable to the received ideas in the ordinary compilations of mythology. Therein we have followed the example, not only of Millin, whose zeal exceeded his knowledge, and who has really been more useful than meritorious,—but also that of Winckelmann, who, in his classification of the collection of Stosch, has not suffered even the shadow of any peculiar system to appear. Thus the distinction between *gods* and *heroes* will here be faithfully preserved. After the Titans, the gods of heaven and of Olympus, will come the gods of the earth, of the sea, and of the infernal abodes; then, the allegorical divinities; and so on until our religious matter be exhausted. We shall not admit any distinction between the deities of Rome and those of Greece; the divinities of other countries will come in their turn, but only after those of the classic religions; so that researches may be made independently of the text, as in any other sort of collection. The descriptions will always be written with the care which has, we trust, characterized our other publications; the translations minutely faithful, the incidental illustrations as accurate as we can give them. As for the doubtful attributes, those

microscopic details which are only to be discerned, glass in hand, and which no engraving can entirely represent, our statement may, I think, be relied on, wherever expressly affirmed: never shall the desire to make any one particular explanation triumph, lead us to twist an uncertain indication into our own particular point of view. That which is not clear in the original will, in our description, appear as doubtful. Such is the rule we have imposed on ourselves, and to which we hope to remain faithful on all occasions." After alluding to the want of any sufficient guide in the primary collection of materials for his task, M. Lenormant justly concludes that no difficulty of the kind should be allowed to hinder the use of "the truly unique opportunity which now presents itself, of bringing suddenly and at once so large a mass of authorities to bear upon generally circulated ideas; of presenting to so many superior intellects, far removed from great museums, so many elements of discussion, of which the most faithful descriptions give but very imperfect ideas."

We have extracted the more freely from these introductory observations, on account of the comparatively small portion of the work yet published; there is, however, quite sufficient to enable us to bear testimony to the faithfulness with which, so far, the plan is carried out.

As we have seen, the first portion treats of the Titans; section 1, illustrated by ten medals and gems, forming plate 1, is devoted to *Saturn;* section 2, illustrated by twenty pieces, to *Janus.* As a specimen of M. Lenormant's manner of treating his subject, we will make an extract from this section: it is much too long for entire quotation.

The etymology of the word Janus is traced to two roots: 1. The Phœnician *Jaon* (Ju-piter, Ju-no), and 2. *Annus,* and is supported by reference to several ancient opinions—

such as that of Festus, who refers Janus to the Greek χάσκειν (whence Chaos)—and also to a passage in Ovid,[2] tracing up the first idea of Janus to primitive and cosmic unity; the double face of the god representing the sphericity proper to cosmic unity.

M. Lenormant proceeds to show that in the idea of Chaos, which belongs to Janus, is implied strife; imaged in the Janus *quadrifrons*, as sustained between the four elementary forces; and in the Janus *bifrons*, in the more strict as well as more usual sense of strife, between two principles at once connected and opposed. To understand the full force of this symbol, we must bear in mind, that with the Romans the *as* expressed unity, and that upon that monetary unity they were accustomed to stamp the Janus *bifrons* Cicero's second etymology *Janus quasi Eanus ab eundo*,[3] enables us to solve the primitive duality,—to establish a distinction between that part of the principle which expressed the stability and equilibrium of the universe, and the part whose attributes are action and movement; this M. Lenormant develops as illustrative of several parts of the myth, and proceeds:—

"But this dualism is not confined to the bringing together of the two bearded heads, expressing a perfect equality between the two relations; it assumes different expressions according to the diversity of the ideas which may be attached to it. It is worthy of remark, that the varieties of the Roman *as*, together with others of the ancient coins as they remain to us, represent, so to speak, all possible varieties of the dualism." These varieties M. Lenormant proceeds to class in a very lucid manner under ten heads; but to follow him would make our extract too long.

[2] *Fast.* i. 103, 104.

[3] *De Nat. Deo.* ii. 27.

But in justice to the accomplished editor, we must state in his own words the view in which he wishes his labours to be regarded:—"For the rest," he says in the preface, "it would be doing me much wrong to suppose that I pretend to have invented a new system of mythology; the ideas which will here be developed are already everywhere. In the march of science, individuals are of little account; progression, when its time has come, is like a fluid, diffusing itself through the air, which every one breathes without thinking about it. It would be easy for me to find my fellow-labourers everywhere, and among them to name some who would seem the most opposed to my ideas."

Taking this work altogether, as a collection of the monuments of mythology from all parts of the civilized world, comprising at once medals, coins, gems, and the smaller kinds of sculpture, such as it was never before possible to bring into one focus, and as applying to these monuments the erudite illustrations and critical acumen of men whose fitness for the task is based upon long and patient research; we have little doubt that it will mark a new and important epoch in the annals of archæological and numismatic science.

II.—Numismatics of the Greek Kings.

This collection begins with the coins of the kings of Syracuse, so distinguished for the beauty of their execution, and here, for the first time, faithfully and adequately represented. It scarcely need be said, that M. Lenormant (who edits this work also) agrees with all the best and latest authorities in referring the supposititious coins of Gelo, first king of Syracuse (B. C. 494), to Hiero II. (B. C. 274); his series, therefore, commences with the coins of Agathocles (B. C. 317). It is admitted in the preliminary observations,

that, strictly speaking, the coins of Greek kings should begin with those of Macedonia; but it has been thought more convenient for the reader, and more in keeping with the main purpose of the whole undertaking—utility rather than novelty—to continue to follow the geographical arrangement of Strabo, as adopted by Eckhel, departing from it only in cases of clearly discovered error, such as that just adverted to, respecting the coins of Hiero II., which both Eckhel and Visconti ascribed to the earlier kings.

I cannot but think that, in this country especially, coins and even medals are regarded too much as the mere materials of monetary history, to the neglect frequently of those higher purposes they are so well qualified to subserve, and of which many eminent men, both English and foreign, have repeatedly marked their just appreciation. Among the latter, Winckelmann long ago insisted on the great importance of coins and medals, *as works of art;* and he has somewhere said, that the human conception is unable to surpass the beauty of the finest among the Syracusan coins.[4] It seems strange, indeed, that at this period it should be necessary to *defend* numismatic studies; yet it is unquestionable that they are often looked upon as a sort of hobby, respectable and proper enough in a professed numismatist, but by no means indispensable even to a cultivated taste in art, still less imperative on every well-educated man. Yet not only do coins in general occupy a most important place among the *Paralipomena Historica*, but those of Greece

[4] The passage occurs, I think, in the Erinnerung über die Betrachtung der Werke der Kunst. There is also some interesting discussion on the same subject in the essay of the late Dr. Stüglitz (best known, perhaps, as a distinguished amateur of architecture), entitled, Versuch einer Einrichtung antiker Münzsammlungen zur Erläuterung der Geschichte der Kunst des Alterthums. 8vo. Leipzig, 1809, or thereabout.

more particularly, afford very fair criteria of the state of the arts of design at the periods when they were respectively struck; having, be it remembered, an advantage over nearly all other monuments of art, in the *certainty* (for the exceptions are both rare and distinguishable) of their dates. Marbles are frequently found entirely without inscription; coins have invariably their legends, and thus aid us materially in tracing the successive steps in the development of art. Nor is this all; in the words of a very distinguished archæologist, the Duc de Lygnes,[5] "it was not merely the caprice of the artists, or the necessity of adorning the metal intended for the exchanges of commerce, with some symbol or other, which produced the varied types of the Greek coins; for in these there may always be recognized a much more important motive. From the most distant times, we see them bearing effigies, national and religious; and hence the true importance of numismatical researches; for even when a coin or medal does not commemorate a name or fact which else had been unknown to history, it shows with certainty the *political state* of a people at an epoch, the date of which its fabrication can fix alone. The multitude of Greek autonomata has enabled numismatists to arrange them in a regular and unvarying series. They have been enabled to show that these coins are archives wherein every day brings to light some curious fragment bearing on the local myths or on the religions of the great cities. Upon these yet intact monuments are inscribed, by the indubitable chronology of their *issue*, the successive changes of worship, and the introduction of new rites, according to the decay or revival of the several colonies. If the Greeks had possessed our means of coinage, modern museums would

[5] In the beautiful work entitled *Metaponte*, par. M. M. le Duc de Laynes, et F. J. Debacque. Folio. Paris, 1833.

probably never have been enriched with so large a variety of coins; and the monetary remains of antiquity would have been less complete and less instructive."

But perhaps much of the comparative neglect which numismatic studies have met with in this country, as far as respects these higher and more comprehensive views of their scope and purpose, is to be traced to the want of sufficient means and inducements for their pursuit. In our national museum, although it is possessed of a valuable and extensive collection of coins and medals, there is not even the outline of such a selection or classification as might assist the student to trace by their means either the course of general history, or that of the history of art in particular. There is not, at the British Museum, for the purpose of *inviting* and *inducing* examination and study, any such display of the more generally interesting of its treasures, as has long existed in the Medal-cabinet of the Royal Library at Paris, and which is so arranged as to make it, I verily believe, absolutely impossible for even the most idly curious of its visitors to return without having acquired somewhat of really useful knowledge. Neither are there in our own museum such accessible *catalogues* as might be desired, and which, if supplied, would save a vast deal of time to those "men of research" who visit the collection in the progress of their labours.

I do not mention these undeniable deficiencies for the purpose of censure. Mere censure is not unfrequently as unjust as it is useless: and in the present case I know well that the fault is not with the officers of the museum, but has grown out of straitened means and other circumstances, which I hope and believe will ere long be remedied.

Then again, as to our numismatic publications, is there not much reason to fear that a large number of these have

rather hindered than forwarded progress—keeping still in view the *historical and artistical uses* of the science? Have they not been frequently remarkable for their extreme insufficiency and inaccuracy?

But in truth, that important requisite is illustrated works —*accurate* representation has been hitherto a matter of extreme difficulty in respect of the smaller works of sculpture (*glyptique*), and especially of coins and medals. While a fine picture requires to be *translated* into the engraver's art rather than *copied*, the degree of success generally depending on the amount of harmony between the minds of the engraver and of the original painter, a medal or gem cannot be imitated too precisely; in them so much depends on minute touches, which are commonly lost or altogether changed, when imitated first by a draughtsman, and then by an engraver. In fact, the one thing needful, more especially for the purposes of the historical student, is to get *a faithful copy*. How rarely this has been, or can be attained by the ordinary modes of engraving, even with all the appliances of great talent and enormous expense, may be seen by turning to that work of admirable erudition, the *Iconography* of Visconti: compare some of his plates with the originals, or with exact casts of them; how much is added; how much altered; how many restorations merely conjectural are introduced. And then how vainly do you look for any indications of the actual and veritable *condition* of the monuments themselves at the time when they were delineated!

If then, it may be justly said, even of such publications as these, that while as works of art they are truly beautiful, as collections of the monuments of artistic history, they leave almost everything to be desired; how are we to describe the deficiencies of those which have not the former quality to boast of?

We shall not then be thought to claim too much for the discovery—apparently almost simultaneous in several countries—of a means of faithfully reproducing those monuments, with all their beauties and with all their faults, to an illimitable extent, if we venture to predict that hereafter it will be thought not the least considerable—in so far as respects the fine arts—of the titles of the nineteenth century to the gratitude of posterity.

It should ever be borne in mind, that in this faithful reproduction of a multitude of the most important materials of art—history is the legitimate object and field of this mechanical relief-engraving. In the higher walks of art, it makes no pretensions to intrude itself. Here is its appropriate sphere.

Adding then, an invention like this, to those other causes which have been operating of late to the visible improvement of our numismatic publications, is there not much reason to hope that better things are at hand?

May we not hope that ere long England will cease to be WITHOUT A MEDALLIC HISTORY—and that even—in course of time—*an English artist* may be found capable of producing a medal worthy to celebrate the coronation of an English Queen?

But returning from this digression, to our immediate subject—the *Trésor de Numismatique et de Glyptique*, we arrive at the third division of the work, in the class of ancient art, viz.:—

THE ICONOGRAPHY OF THE ROMAN EMPERORS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

THIS work is still in course of publication, and we need say little more of it than that it deserves at least as much praise as the preceding, which, indeed, it excels in compre-

hensiveness of plan, as well as in the ample development of its illustrative text. In the numismatics of the Greek kings, the illustrative notices too often fall short of that lucid and full explanation which is so essential to a work intended to be popular, and aiming at extensive utility; this fault was pointed out by an able foreign critic,[6] and we are glad to perceive by the improvement in the *Iconographie Romaine*, that the hint has been taken. Here each event or person commemorated by a medal or a gem is simply and clearly analysed, so that the work forms a collection of the historic vouchers of the period, with a running commentary upon them.

In the frontispiece, we have the grand eagle, from that magnificent sardonyx in the Vienna cabinet, which has been in the possession of the house of Austria since the time of the Emperor Rodolph II.: and in the second number, the famous cameo, also from Vienna, of the triumph of Tiberius, the largest as well as one of the finest left by antiquity. According to the tradition preserved by Gassendi, this gem was acquired in the Holy Land, by the Knights of Saint John of Jerusalem, from whom it was purchased by Philippe-le-bel, and presented to the abbey of Poissy; during the wars of the sixteenth century, it was carried off into Germany, where the Emperor purchased it for 12,000 ducats (probably equal to 14,000*l.* of our money). Since this period it has remained in the Vienna cabinet. The present engraving of it is very fine; and it may well excite our wonder, that a machine, even with all the advantage of the perfecting skill of an able engraver, should give the play of light and shade with such admirable effect, mark distinctly with different tints, the several faces of a cameo, and express with apparently equal success, the high relief

[6] M. Schœlcher.

of some gems, and the extreme and delicate tenuity of others.

Passing over the series of Parthenon (or Elgin), and Phigalian marbles, which has been announced for republication in England, with some important modifications, we come to the second great division of the "*Trésor*" or that containing

MONUMENTS OF MIDDLE-AGE AND MODERN ART.

If it be true that the history of art, by *its monuments*, has been too much neglected, generally, it is especially so with regard to that particular period of the history which extends from the decay of art about the fourth century, down to the dawn of its revival in the eleventh,—and indeed much later,—a period of little less than a thousand years. Monuments of the former part of this period, displaying a state of art, degraded indeed, but by no means devoid of interest, are to be found if searched for, but the search is difficult and laborious in a high degree, notwithstanding the labour of such men as Montfauçon, and his worthy brethren in France; of Dugdale and others in England, in collecting; and of D'Agincourt, and other recent writers, chiefly abroad, in examining and arranging the monuments collected. And, in truth, the early history of the revival itself, the works of the men of the twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, are hardly less neglected, as to any continuous and comprehensive view of them, than are those of the darker ages. Yet what study can be more interesting than to watch the first appearances of improvement,—to perceive or return to nature as the model for imitation; to note the development of an intense devotion to art, as the handmaid of religion,—to look on men of every class, displaying anxiety for its cultivation and

progress,—to see cities just emancipated from feudal bondage, vying with each other as much in arts as in arms,—to recognize everywhere a spirit of the most earnest and noble emulation.

The history of these early ages of the revival, and of those which preceded, must be sought from multifarious sources: among the most important are monumental effigies, bas-reliefs, seals, and coins. Many tombs still give us very fair ideas of the state, both of painting and sculpture at the time of their erection. Among those in France for instance, that of Dagobert, executed by order of Saint Louis, displays remarkable simplicity and naiveté of form; the draperies are really beautiful, those especially of the Christ in the pediment, and of the figures of Clovis II., and Queen Nantedield. A considerable number of tombs, porches, &c., and many single bas-reliefs of this period,—from the eleventh to the fourteenth centuries, still existing in France, are well deserving of attention for their sculpture; and thanks to the establishment by the French government of an office for the inspection of the National monuments of art and history, means are now taken for their efficient preservation. As M. Vilet, the able archæologist charged with the formation of a systematic catalogue of these monuments, and with the duty of pointing out to the government the best means for their future protection from decay, has at different times made valuable reports to the minister of the interior, on the progress of his labours, we may reasonably expect at no distant period to see a worthy collection of these important contributions, towards the history of art.

In this respect, too, there are few materials more interesting than the early SEALS of kings, barons, monasteries, corporations &c., which yet remain in considerable num-

bers. In its second great division, the *Trésor de Numismatique* contains four collections of this kind: 1. The Seals of the Kings and Queens of England, from Edward the Confessor; 2. those of the Kings and Queens of France from Dagobert the First;—both of which are brought down to the present time and are completed; 3. the Seals of the great feudatories of the French Crown; and, 4. those of various municipal bodies, monasteries, &c. The two last are now in course of publication. These seals appear to be engraved with extreme fidelity, enabling us to trace step by step the progress of design with all the certainty of contemporary records. Generally it may be said, that those of the twelfth century and earlier are very stiff, and abound with emblems, chiefly religious. In the next century they have more breadth and freedom, often display good drawing, and a beautiful minuteness in the details, more or less well subordinated to the general effect of the design: in this last respect, and also for fineness of touch in the execution, the English seals have a decided superiority over the French of the same period, as the editor of the latter has himself remarked. Coming down to the fourteenth and succeeding centuries, we find them loaded with ornament, often grotesque and strangely combined. The draperies are sometimes extremely simple and graceful.

The Coins of the eleventh, twelfth, and thirteenth centuries, offer vivid representations of the strife between sovereigns and barons;—between ecclesiastical power and the secular;—between the old imperial authority, and the rising spirit of independence; by which those ages were characterized. The coins of the prelates begin to bear the insignia of power; those of the cities assume their respective and peculiar types, and those of the emperors are

more and more adorned with the emblems of their state, as their real power declined. But in respect of art, these coins are barbarous enough; and there is but little temptation to commence a Numismatic collection before the close of the fourteenth or beginning of the fifteenth centuries. Some authors indeed have given medals of the popes, almost without a break from Saint Peter downwards. But even those embraced within the few years between 1400, and the election of Martin V. *i. e.* Innocent VII. Gregory XII. John XIII. and Alexander V. are not contemporary, although they were probably struck after authentic portraits. The others are of course mere fabrications from portraits for the most part imaginary. The authentic medals of the popes, may therefore be considered as commencing with Martin V. (elected 1417,) of whom there is a medal by Pisanello, the renowned head of the Italian school of medallists. Of the works of this school, two series containing nearly an equal number, being *a selection* from the medals of the popes, are given in the *Trésor de Numismatique.* A finer Numismatic collection cannot be conceived; they not only present a beautiful series of portraits, but many of the reverses are admirable compositions.

The earliest medals, it must be remembered, which we meet with in bronze and silver, are nothing more than careful impressions of the ordinary seals retouched; the waxen seals being simply casts from a mould; although often, on important occasions, impressions in gold were attached to charters: when, at the revival of art, the beautiful portraits of the Roman emperors, excited the desire to produce, by a similar method, the effigies of the illustrious men of the age, the art of sinking dies in steel was yet unknown, as was also the coining press, to which alone we owe the

perfection of our largest pieces. The artists, therefore, who were the first to attempt to imitate the medals of the ancients, went to work by the same process as the engraver of seals; their medals being, in fact, mere casts from moulds. But as the results of this process were coarse, and full of air bubbles and inequalities of surface, the artists or their pupils were compelled to retouch with the graver those impressions which were selected for the higher purpose.

This very imperfect mode of casting and chasing medallions, was the only one in use either in Italy or France, until the end of the fifteenth century. At the commencement of the sixteenth, Victor Camel, having invented the art of sinking dies in steel, the number of medals struck with the coining press soon exceeded that of the medals cast and chased, which however continued in partial use, during the whole of this century; and indeed at this very period Germany produced some examples of exceeding beauty. But it was in Italy, between 1440 and 1500, that the art most eminently flourished, and Victor Pisanello was its most celebrated professor.

Little more is known of this remarkable man, than that he was a Veronese, and had required great reputation as a painter. He may be said, indeed, to have disputed with Masaccio the glory of having given to painting the greatest impulse which it received during the fifteenth century. Vasari, and many others, especially commend him for having first dared to make bold foreshortings, and to design horses and other animals, with freedom and truthfulness. Pisanello's paintings have indeed almost entirely disappeared, but the reverses of his medallions abundantly verify the eulogiums which have been lavished upon him. Nothing, however, proves more fully his great influence upon his age, than the school of able engravers which he

founded in Verona, the place of his nativity, and which became the means of diffusing the art amongst the neighbouring cities. It did not cross the Appenines until a later period.

In the seventeenth century, when the art of casting and chasing medallions had fallen into disuse throughout Italy, Dupré and Warin conferred new lustre upon it in France, which until their time had been content to follow Italy at a considerable distance; it was now fairly placed amongst the nations in the first rank of modern medallic art.

The first of these men, George Dupré, is known only by his works. It is plain, by the subjects he has treated, and the portraits we owe to his graver, that he enjoyed much favour with the illustrious men of the kingdom, and that his reputation extended even into Italy; but contemporary writers observe a strict silence concerning him, as they do concerning too many of the artists of that age.

Jean Varin, or Warin, who it is believed was the pupil of Dupré, was thought by Perrault worthy of being inserted in his list of illustrious men of France. From him we learn, that Warin was a Fleming; that having entered the service of the Count de Rochfort as a page, he was soon distinguished by Richelieu, who enabled him to obtain letters of naturalization, and entrusted to him the new coinage of the kingdom. From this period until his death (August 26, 1672) all the types of the French coins were executed by Warin, he having succeeded to the post of director-general of the French mint. At a later period, when the mint had been removed to the Louvre, he added to this title that of "Chief Engraver of Dies." He died by assassination at the age of sixty-eight.

The works of these great artists, distinguished alike by their number and their extraordinary merit, form of them-

selves the second volume of the series of "French Medals, extending from Charles VII. to Louis XVII.," contained in the *Trésor de Numismatique;* the first volume bringing the art down to the period of Henry IV., and therefore including all the productions of *the revival,* the most important of which, as we have already observed, possess a real and important interest, as forming memorials both of the state of art, of events often involved in more or less obscurity, and of personages whose portraits they only, in many cases, have been the means of preserving to our own times. The present is the first complete collection of French medals ever made.

Of the Italian medals of the schools and of the popes, the first volume of the former series appears to be the most beautiful, though it is not an easy point to decide. The only fault we are disposed to find is with the text, which is not so ample and explanatory as it might have been made; and the objection applies perhaps with most force to the medals of the popes, in which we sometimes miss even the names of artists, which a little more research might have discovered,—a point which should not be passed over as unimportant. It has been justly observed, that the interest of a medal is much increased if, in meeting with it, we remember some biographical anecdote with which it is connected, as is the case, for instance, with the papal medal on plate vi., wherewith, as Cellini tells us in his Memoirs, he paid Clement VII. for pardoning the assassination of Pompeo, the goldsmith.

The next series of the *Trésor*, which we notice as applying chiefly, though not exclusively, to the middle ages, is the collection of bas-reliefs and ornaments, or "*Melanges Typoglyptiques,*" which includes gems, armour, furniture, and carvings of various kinds.

The first part of this work (in ten *livraisons*) contains about one hundred and forty subjects, comprised in forty plates. Of these somewhat more than half are works of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, and there are a few of earlier date, such as the cover of Charles the Bald's copy of the Evangelists; a carving in ivory, of the ninth century; the famous diptich of the consul Anastasius, in the sixth century, of which I shall speak presently, and other similar curiosities; there are also many specimens of Turkish, Persian, and Indian art. The armour of the sixteenth century, originally in the gallery of Sedan, engraved on plates xxi. xxii. and xxiii. are among the very finest examples I have ever seen, and would make admirable studies for design. The figures and ornaments are in bas-relief, and smooth; the ground is matted to increase the effect of relief. There is also, on plate iv., a very curious frontlet from a suit of armour which belonged to the Emperor Charles VI., now preserved in the Artillery Museum at Paris; and some fragments of another finely wrought suit, in the same Museum, ascribed to the Marshal de Thémines.

The diptich of the consul Anastasius, one of the most remarkable specimens, in an historical point of view, given in the work, was for a long period preserved in the cathedral of Bruges: at the Revolution, it was transferred to the Royal Library of Paris, and is now engraved on the seventeenth plate of the present work. Diptichs, or, as the Romans called them, *pugillares*, were, it will be remembered, in common use throughout the Roman empire as presents, interchanged among friends, especially at the commencement of the year; and among the persons whom usage laid under the obligation of sending these presents in considerable numbers, the consuls, who at that period

entered upon the duties of their office, were, of course, prominent. When, under the empire, the consulate was reduced to little more than an honorary distinction, and the consuls chosen from amongst those citizens who could disburse the greatest sums in giving spectacles and largesses to the people, an obligation of this sort became still more rigorous; and the consular diptichs may fairly be considered as monuments of the first magistracy of Rome degraded to be the plaything of personal vanity.

"The consuls," says the editor of the *Trésor*, "distributed diptichs to the people; sent them to the senate of Rome, to the cities and churches, and to their friends and relatives in the provinces. Gaul, in common with other parts of the empire, received a great number of them: the magistrates, the churches, even the kings of the Franks, obtained them from Constantinople. The diptichs of Bruges and of Liege, belonging to the same consul, and to the same year (517), did not, it is true, form part of the presents sent in 508, by the Emperor Anastasius to Clovis, with the insignia of the honorary consulate; but a similar means may have brought into France others of the same kind. However this may have been, whether the churches became directly the depositaries of the consular diptichs, or the lay donors sent them, for pious reasons, to the metropolitan churches or convents, it is at least certain that from a very remote period, they were wont to be placed upon the altars, and to occupy a place of some importance in the celebration of the holy sacrifice. Perhaps a symbolic relation was established between the honours of the consul and the triumpher, represented in all their pomp upon the diptichs, and the honours, not less splendid, which the temporal power lavished on the priesthood: thus the pallium with which prelates were invested was borrowed from the

consular vestment. It is also possible that the diptichs may have been adopted by the church only as objects of luxury and decoration; consecrated by the clergy to pious uses, as it had consecrated vases covered with the attributes of paganism, and adorned the shrines of saints with gems representing mythological scenes, or the portraits of the emperors. * * But without attempting to solve these difficult questions, it is sufficient for our purpose to state, as an acknowledged fact, that those diptiches were employed in the prayers and ceremonies of the church, and were used for the inscription of the formula of worship, of the names of saints invoked at the moment of consecration, and those of bishops mentioned in entreaties to God for the salvation of the departed faithful."

The diptich of Anastasius, distinguished by the name of the Bruges diptich, engraved in this work, bears only the names of the bishops, with the duration of the pontificate of each; the most ancient name, VRSINVS ·ANNOS· XXVII, being inscribed on the first leaf; that of Liege, besides a similar list of bishops, on one of its internal faces, contains on the other the prayer of oblation, and a list of the saints, protectors of the church. Saint Gregory (in his sacrament) gives the prayer for the defunct bishop, *super diptycha*, and the liturgists of the ninth century, such as Alcuin,[1] mention already as an ancient usage, *usus fuit antiquorum*, which the Roman church had preserved, that of reciting the names of the deceased from the diptichs. Many are the controversies we find recorded in the Concilia, as to whether or not the names of bishops who had disgraced themselves should be retained on these tablets.

The diptich of Bruges bears on its two external faces the

[1] De Dis. Off. xl.

names and titles of the consul, whose liberality it commemorates; on the one side, FLAVIVS . ANASTATIVS· PAVLVS · PROBVS · SABINIANVS · POMPEIVS · ANASTATIVS; on the other, VIR · INLVSTRIS · COMES · DOMESTICORVM · EQVITVM . ET . CONSVL . ORDINARIVS. This profusion of proper names was in the taste of the Byzantine court; a way of proving nobility by recapitulating the names of ancestors. In this system, contrary to that of the Romans of the republic, the appellative name of the personage was placed the last, the name of his father immediately preceding it; the consul of these diptichs was named Anastasius, and was the son of Pompey. The titles preceding that of consul show the offices with which he had been invested prior to his elevation to the consulate.

These diptichs of Bruges and of Liege have served to correct an important error made by the early collectors of the consular records, on the authority of an inscription in the Justinian code, in placing a fourth consulate of the Emperor Anastasius, in 517, the 27th year of his reign. It has been made evident by their examination, that besides the three certain consulates of this emperor, there was indeed, during his reign, a fourth consulate in the same name, but that the last Anastasius was not the emperor, although one of the imperial family. Of the various conjectures concerning the precise place of this consul in the family, the present editor of the diptichs adopts that of Ducange,[1] and founds thereon his explanation of the figures seen upon the monument. This explanation, although interesting, would occupy too much space.

The twelfth plate presents a curious marriage-coffer, damasked or inlaid in gold and silver, from the cabinet of

[1] *Familles Byzantines*, p. 86.

M. de Montville; but without a single descriptive or explanatory word in the text concerning either its subject, date, or history; a defect of which we have often to complain, the letter-press of this work being by far the least satisfactory of all that is before us. With such materials as the proprietors of the Trésor have at their command, and such means of turning them to the best account, it would have been much better to have formed two separate works, one for specimens of oriental art and other specimens of a miscellaneous character; the other exclusively for those which illustrate the art of the middle ages, and of the revival, which might then have had a systematic text, showing the real bearings of the several monuments upon the history of that art. Such a work would be valuable indeed, and would diffuse much truer notions as to the sources whence the men of the revival really drew their greatness, and as to the sort of patronage by which they were aided and encouraged in their labours, than are often met with.

But taking the present collection of these interesting monuments just as it is, it may safely be pronounced far superior to anything of the same kind which has hitherto appeared. Many articles contained in it I would gladly notice at greater length; but at present I must content myself with observing that, among the rest, a number of very choice cameos and intaglios, exquisitely engraved (plates xiii. to xvi.), some bas-reliefs, both curious and beautiful, chiefly of the sixteenth century (plates xxv. to xxviii.), and the very fine bas-reliefs from the bronze gates of Saint Peter's at Rome (plates xxix. to xxxii.) will deserve minute examination.

A second series of the work is now in course of publication, which may perhaps afford an opportunity of returning to the subject.

The length to which this article has extended prevents me from noticing the third division of this great work, containing monuments of contemporaneous history, including a complete series of the very remarkable medals of the French Revolution of 1789. Another series, containing the medals of the Emperor Napoleon, and of the French empire, has been already introduced to the English public.

E. E.

XI.

PROPOSAL FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DECIMAL DIVISION IN MONEY.

By I. P. Cory, Esq.

[Read before the Numismatic Society, May 24, 1838.]

The introduction of a decimal division in weights and measures, and in money, has been a subject of frequent speculation: but the manifest advantages it presents have hitherto been very properly disregarded, as more than counterbalanced by the evils which would be inflicted by any tampering with the currency, and by the confusion which would be introduced among all contracts and accounts. But as the actual state of our coinage at the present moment affords some remarkable facilities, which are augmented by the commencement of a new reign, I cannot forbear submitting to public consideration a proposal, by which the decimal division may, without difficulty, be introduced into all monetary concerns, and at once adopted by all persons who may choose to take advantage of it; without the least interruption to others who prefer the present practice; without withdrawing a single coin

from circulation; and without disturbing a single contract or account.

We have now in common circulation two different kinds of pennies: one of these, the common penny, is much smaller than the other, and weighs about four farthings; while the other, the great penny of George the Third, weighs more than five farthings, and is intrinsically worth at least a farthing more than the small penny; and the circumstance of these two pennies being in common circulation, affords the present facilities for adopting the decimal division.

The proposition is simply this,—to strike two new coins in silver, with new denominations—the first equal in value to two shillings, being one-tenth part of a pound, and the other equal in value to the tenth part of this two-shilling-piece, and to proclaim it equal to ten farthings; and to proclaim also that the great or old penny shall henceforth pass for five farthings, leaving the small penny still to circulate at four.

Most sovereigns have given their own names to any new coins which have originated in their reigns. And as the Jacobus, Louis, Napoleon, Paul, and Carlin are common coins, we might designate one of the proposed new coins, a Victorin. But upon the present occasion I shall, for perspicuity, denominate the two-shilling-piece a Florin, as the name of the foreign coin nearest in value, and, indeed, a name not unknown in the English coinage; and the other I shall at present call a Stiver,[1] though, in former times, the double-penny passed in the northern parts of this island under the name of a Bodle.

We should, then, by striking these two pieces, and such

[1] The Sterling was a coin once in use, and is an appropriate name for a silver coin.

a proclamation, without further difficulty, have the coinage thus arranged:

10 Farthings = 1 Stiver.
10 Stivers = 1 Florin.
10 Florins = 1 Pound.

The Pound would therefore be equal to 10 Florins, to 100 Stivers, or 1000 Farthings.

The shilling would remain as the half florin, and 20 in the pound, and equal to 10 great pence; the sixpence as the quarter florin, equal to five great pence; the groat as the sixth, and the stiver as the tenth part of the florin. The great penny would be the half stiver of five farthings; the small penny would remain at four farthings; and the halfpenny would remain at two farthings.

This position, therefore, combines within itself both the new and the old system of notation. Every contract and account would remain precisely as they now stand. Every person might calculate in whichever notation he thought proper; and every transfer of an account from one system of notation into the other, could be effected with singular facility. The decimal division would gradually supersede the other without the slightest shock; and, notwithstanding the decimal division, it combines the practical advantage of having the silver coinage divided into halves, quarters, thirds, and tenths, and the copper divided into halves, quarters, thirds, and fifths.

The real and actual alteration, however, that is proposed in the coinage is this,—That the pound shall consist hereafter of 1000 farthings instead of 960; the florin, or two-shilling-piece, of 100 farthings, instead of 96; and, therefore, the shilling of 50 instead of 48; and, consequently, the change for the sixpence would be 25 farthings instead of 24. And this is a concern of very small importance; for the fact is,

that the copper money, not being a legal tender, except for pence, is not current at its intrinsic, but at a conventional, value; and the silver sixpence is intrinsically worth about 36 farthings, instead of the 24 for which it nominally passes. And, indeed, practically, we are daily in the habit of receiving between 24 and 33 farthings for every sixpence that we change, according to whether the change consists of the small or the great pence; and it is rare that we do not receive 25 farthings for the sixpence: the alteration, therefore, in this respect, is practically of but little importance, especially when we recollect that in those retail concerns in which copper money is chiefly received, it is not uncommon to give for five shillings in silver 62 or 63 pence instead of 60.

I deem it scarcely necessary to advert to the manifest advantages resulting from the decimal division of the coinage; it clears away at once all the intricacies of the money sums, by reducing them to simple arithmetical sums, obviating the necessity of reduction and fractions in almost every case, and, in fact, rendering every arithmetical computation, in which shillings and pence are involved, as simple as if they were omitted; but in all transactions of foreign exchanges, interest, and accounts, affording facilities which can only be appreciated by commercial men. I need mention but one example to convey to every one a sense of its importance:—If we write down the first six integers, 1 2 3, 4 5 6, as a number, we put, between the 3 and the 4, a comma, cutting off the three last figures; and, supposing these six integers to express a sum of *money*, the same comma, or a point, will then divide the pounds from the fractional parts of a pound; and the same figures will express the sum in pounds, in florins, in stivers, or in farthings, without further adjustment or alteration, as 123 pounds, 4 florins, 5 stivers, and 6 farthings, or as 123,456

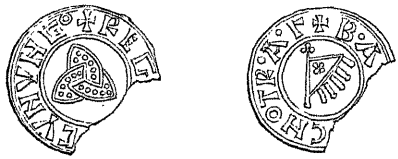
farthings, or as 1234 florins, and 56 farthings, or in any terms we may think proper to express it. And if it be required to transfer this sum from the new to the old notation, it is done at once by taking the pounds as they stand, doubling the florins, and adjusting the farthings; and it stands at once, in the old notation, at 123*l.*, 8 shillings, and 56 farthings, that is, 14 pence, making 123*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* And the inverse reduction of this is performed by retaining the pounds, halving the shillings, and adjusting the farthings, viz. 123 retained as pounds, the half of 9*s.*[1] viz. 4, as the florins, and the residue, viz. 1*s.* 2*d.*, reduced into farthings, gives again the 56, which is the same as 5 stivers and 6 farthings as before.

I should be unwilling to close this paper without adverting to the advantage which might be derived from a general *convention* dollar of all the civilized kingdoms, bearing the insignia of each separate kingdom upon its obverse, and some general conventional symbol upon its reverse. And if we should coin a 4 shilling dollar, we should so nearly agree with the five franc piece, of France, the convention dollar current in Austria, Saxony, and Bohemia, and with the dollar of Sicily and Naples, that but little adjustment would be necessary between these kingdoms. With Spain and America, whose dollars are somewhat larger, and in greater circulation, more difficulty presents itself; but if England were to strike a 4 shilling dollar, it would not only facilitate our commerce as an instrument of exchange, but would eventually become the basis upon which a general convention dollar would ere long be current through the world.

[1] Whenever the shillings happen to be of an odd number, the sum carried to the farthings must of course always consist of 1*s.* or 48 farthings, rendering the transfer almost as easy, both ways, as if there was nothing carried.

XII.

PENNY OF REGNALD.



For the drawing of the above interesting fragment we are indebted to the Very Reverend the Dean of Saint Patrick's, Dublin. Regnald is twice or thrice mentioned in the Chronicles, but very little is known of him or his reign. The first notice is A. D. 924, where he is called Reynold, the son of Guthfrith. In the year 944 he was, with Anlaf, driven out of Northumberland. The present fragment is of considerable interest, as it indisputably connects Regnald with Sithric and Anlaf, both kings of Dublin. A coin of Sithric, precisely similar to this, is figured in the Earl of Pembroke's Plates, and in the 11th plate of Ruding there is one (the only one known) of Anlaf, the son of Sithric. It is therefore very probable that the three coins are all of Irish origin.

XIII.

PENNIES OF WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR.

Sir,

I beg to submit to you two pennies of William the Conqueror, or his son Rufus, though, in all probability,

the appropriation to the father is the correct one. The first reads, PILLEMV · REX; reverse, S . . RIC, (perhaps Sodric) ON · GILDFRD: the other, PILLELM · REX · I.; reverse, ELFPINE · ON · RVDILI. Both bear the letters, P · A · X · S in the compartments of the cross, on the reverse; and both appear to be fresh from the die; the latter coin is particularly well struck up, and there can be no doubt as to the reading of either, as you will perceive on inspection.

These coins constituted a part of the Beaworth Treasure, so elaborately and ably described and analyzed by Mr. Hawkins, in the 26th volume of the Archæologia; and their portraits are similar to No. 9, in his plate, thongh the legends of the head-side differ from that example, which reads, PILLELM · REX.

I am not aware of any other specimen of a coin struck at Guildford, and apprehend that it furnishes the only existing proof of a mint having been worked at that place, which, under the Saxon monarchy, appears to have held more relative importance than at the present time. Camden says, that Guildford was a royal vill, and probably the residence of Alfred, where, at the time of his writing, were an old palace going to decay and the ruins of a large old castle with considerable outworks. The Conqueror states it, in his survey, to contain 75 *hagæ*, or houses, and 175 *homines;* but the establishment of a mint is not noticed.

In the Analysis of the Beaworth Treasure before alluded to, Mr. Hawkins ascribes to Huntingdon, a coin reading ELPINE · ON · HVDIN; but in a note observes, that the first letter resembling an R. as much as an H., it may be read, RVDIN. for Rhuddlaw, but that from the name of the moneyer, Huntingdon is the probable reading. The piece which accompanies this, distinctly reading, RVDILI, sets, I think, that question at rest, and restores the coin in

the Museum to its true location. The names of the moneyers, *Jelfwine*, on HVT[1] (Huntingdon), and *Elfwine* on RVDILI, certainly resemble each other very closely, and may even be looked upon as identical, when the variations of Saxon orthography are considered; but the lengthened word *Rudili* shows the distinction between the two moneyers, and brings the more abbreviated coin to its actual mintage.

On looking at the list of mints, affording the Pax Type, as given by Mr. Hawkins, one is struck with the excess in their number, over those extracted by Ruding from Domesday Book. These amount to 25 only, whilst those (including Guildford and Rhuddlaw) extend to about 63, though there is no reason to doubt the accuracy of that extract. The mints of the Conqueror's almost immediate predecessors, Canute and Edward the Confessor, were almost as numerous as his; Ruding furnishing 53 locations for the one, and 55 for the other of those two monarchs, is the cause of this great diminution, attributable to the gradually declining state of the country under the Conqueror's general government, or to the devastation which he is said to have inflicted upon it after Guater's rebellion? If the latter surmise should be thought the most probable, it would afford an additional inducement to suppose that this type had been adopted immediately after the insurrection was put down, and before carrying into execution the vindictive measures then contemplated. The word *pax* might be only intended to lull the apprehensions of his subjects, and render them easier victims to the despot's vengeance. With respect to the orthography of this word on the Conqueror's

[1] By the bye, I have another of these pennies, tending to corroborate, if needful, the location of this piece to Huntingdon, by the addition of a letter; it reads, "JELFWINE ON HUTI."

money, we possess a spelling of equal signification, perhaps, on that of the Confessor, who no doubt adapted the letters P · A · C · X to the pronunciation of the word *pax*, but for the evident purpose of filling up the quarters of the cross: so William, or rather his minister of all work, Lanfranc, omitting the C, added the S to "*pax*," in all probability with the like design, or it might be that the Italian archbishop had noticed a Quinarius of the Æmilia family, or a Denarius of Galba, respectively bearing that archaismus, or antiquated mode of spelling the word. J. B.

XIV.

CAST-DIES FOR MEDALS.

Sir,

Although I quite concur with you in the propriety of closing your door to the admission of further personalities respecting M. Pistrucci, I think you ought not to extend the prohibition to the discussion of the merits and efficiency of any process by which it is contended that the Numismatic art may be facilitated and improved. A process has been announced, by which it is said, that great improvements are to be effected in the production of medals. Your correspondent, J. W. B., asserts, that "its practical utility has been established, and that its originality remains unimpeached." I differ from him upon both points, but I do not mean to discuss the question of originality; it is by facts alone that it can be decided, and your columns are not the proper place for the discussion. My object at pre-

sent is only with the efficiency and practical utility of the process; and if that is defective, there is very little chance of the imperfections being remedied unless they be clearly pointed out, and candidly admitted. The process has been described to the public by Mr. Hamilton, Mr. W. Baddeley, and J. W. B.; and I will here recapitulate the various steps of the process in which they all concur.

1. A wax model.
2. A plaster mould from the wax model.
3. A plaster cast from this mould.
4. A sand mould from the plaster cast.
5. An iron cast from the sand mould.
6. A steel die struck from the iron cast.
7. A medal struck from the steel die.

It is not necessary to advert to the modifications of this process, which the artist would adopt, in order to produce a die without the intervention of a punch, or to make a seal instead of a medal. The principle, in any case, is the same.

Having stated the various steps of the process, as described by the three gentlemen, let us see what each says as to the probable results. Mr. Hamilton says, it will "make the medal identically the same with the original model in wax, an operation by which the beauty and perfection of the master's design are at once transferred to any metal." "The work will in all points be, in an instant, an exact fac simile of the original conception of the artist, instead of representing, as at present, merely the handiwork of the engraver, copied from such original." "We may possibly be led by it to discover the mode by which the artists of antiquity succeeded in producing those beautiful coins, in which the softness and boldness of the fleshy parts have never yet been equalled by any modern engraver on steel."

Mr. Baddeley magnifies by the veil of obscurity the importance of the process, observing, that "what the real value of this discovery is, or when the useful application of the fact then established will stop, it is at present wholly impossible to imagine." "One effect will be to make *die sinkers* more of *artists*, and less of *mechanics*, to wield the graver *less*, but the pencil *more skilfully*."

J. W. B. says, that as the die (i. e. the iron cast, according to his mode of describing the process,) "is a fac simile of the wax model, the medal itself will also be a faithful representation of the same original; and, in consequence, will exhibit all those delicate touches—will reflect all the feeling, and softness, and freedom of manipulation, which a good artist well knows how to impart to a plastic material such as wax, but which the rigid steel stubbornly resists, or unwillingly receives." He also suggests, "that we have at last discovered the means by which the ancients effected such wonders in this department of art."

Now, Sir, in the description of the process, we may admit that these gentlemen have spoken the truth, and nothing but the truth; but not one of them has spoken the whole truth. They have all omitted that part of the process which, in the present state of the arts, is necessary to produce a fine medal or seal, and which process at once annihilates all their beautiful visions of "fac similes of the wax model," "the delicate touches," "the feeling," "the softness," "the beauty and perfection of the master's design," which are important to a plastic material, but "which the rigid steel stubbornly resists." Upon reference to the description, it will be seen that the success of the process, the beautiful results promised to us, entirely depend upon the iron cast; the medal cannot be better than that cast; it is not probable that it will be *quite* so good. The three gen-

tlemen all refer to the Berlin casts, in iron, as of great excellence, and I therefore conclude that those casts are the finest which have been produced in that metal; and that, consequently, we have no reason to look for medals produced by this process more perfect than the Berlin casts. I have taken some pains to see a great number of these Berlin productions, and, though they are of great beauty, I have not seen one which would satisfy me as a punch for a medal die, without being worked over entirely by the hand of the engraver, which would entirely annihilate the "delicate touches," "the fac simile," of the master's hand upon the plastic material, and reduce it to, what Mr. Hamilton calls, the "mere handiwork of the engraver." Mr. Hamilton, indeed, in his description, mildly observes: "Of course, it will be necessary, previous to the die being used, for the artist to polish the surface." This is a very tame and defective account of the operation which it would be necessary to perform upon even the most perfect Berlin cast I have ever had the good fortune to examine, in order to produce a satisfactory medal die. The very best would require to be entirely worked over; and I therefore consider the process to be inapplicable to medal-making, in the present state of our skill in the art of casting.

I am quite aware that this statement of my opinion may be met by the assertions of Mr. Baddeley, that "Pistrucci has perfected his process, and has recently made a valuable practical application of his invention;" also by the mention of "the exceedingly beautiful process now successfully matured;" and also by that of J. W. B., that "Pistrucci has *established* the practical utility of his invention." The practical application here referred to by those gentlemen, is the seal of the Duchy of Lancaster, in which Mr. Baddeley says, "there is an exquisite softness and boldness of

relief, in many parts of this seal, not attainable in an *engraved* die." Now, Sir, the Lancaster seal is so far from being a proof of the success of the process, as described by those gentlemen, that it is a proof that the entire working over of the iron cast, which they have omitted to mention, is absolutely necessary. The seal is the result of *engraving*, and whatever "exquisite softness," &c. &c., it possesses, was attained by *engraving*. Mr. Hamilton frequently exhibited the iron cast, and the die made from it; it was unfinished, but the cast had been worked over in all parts, except where the depressions in the cast had not left metal enough to work upon; these depressions in the cast would, of course, occasion deviations in the die, which must have been removed by the engraver, so that in the specimen so triumphantly produced by Mr. Hamilton, it was necessary to engrave both upon the cast and upon the die. The Lancaster seal, then, in its present state, was not produced by this process; and Pistrucci himself must have been so well satisfied that the process had not yet been "successfully matured," that he did not use it in his execution of the coronation medal.

Lamenting and disapproving the tone which has been assumed in the discussion of the merits of this process, and especially the unjust and unfounded aspersions upon the family of the chief engraver at the Mint, so unnecessarily introduced, I have hesitated to address you upon the subject. But thinking that it would be useful, especially to young artists, to caution them against being misled by the strong expressions of partial friends, I have wished to make them acquainted with the whole truth, that they may not be discouraged if they should fail to produce, by the process as described, the same smoothness of surface which they may perceive upon impressions from the Lancaster

seal. I wish, also, to turn their attention most strongly to the subject of casting, because upon it depends entirely the success of the process. When we can produce a cast in hard metal, possessing the sharpness, freshness, and polish of a well-struck medal, we may then, but not till then, consider the process, be it new or old, as "successfully matured." CAUTUS.

XV.

THE COINS OF CARAUSIUS AND ALLECTUS.

THE numerous coins struck by Carausius and his successor in Britain, deserve more attention than has hitherto been bestowed on them. It is worthy of observation, that although the career of Allectus was short, his coins are not only as numerous but, upon the whole, are of better execution than those of his predecessor. Many coins of Carausius are so utterly barbarous as to raise doubts whether they were struck by his authority or executed by illiterate forgers in remote parts of the island. Vaillant, remarking on the types of the money of Allectus says "Fortasse Monetarii festinantes typo aversæ partis nummorum Carausii usi sunt."* Of this, however, we require proof. That such a practice was common in the Roman mint at the period in question there cannot be a doubt, but the coins of Allectus do not bear so close a resemblance to those of

* *Num. Imp. Rom.* tom. iii. p. 67.

Carausius, as the latter bear to the coins of the Emperors Diocletian and Maximian. Gold coins of Carausius are of exceeding rarity: six types are known, but only one is to be found in the collection of the British Museum, and this was originally purchased at a very high price. No private collection in England can boast a gold coin of Carausius. Seven types in gold are known of Allectus; and some of these are in the cabinets of English collectors. Gold coins of Allectus have been found in England, but I am not aware, that a gold coin of Carausius has been discovered in any part of the island. From this circumstance. as well as from the peculiar style and fabric of the very fine gold coin of Carausius in the British Museum, I am led to conjecture that it was minted at Boulogne, before that place surrendered to Constantius Chlorus.

A.

MISCELLANIES.

The New Coinage.—From the Gazette.

By the Queen—a Proclamation.

Victoria, R.—Whereas we have thought fit to order that certain pieces of gold money should be coined, which should be called five-pound pieces, each of which should be of the value of one hundred shillings, and that each such piece should be of the weight of twenty-five pennyweights, sixteen grains, and 3700-10000 troy weight, of standard gold; and that certain other pieces of gold money should be coined, which should be called double sovereigns, each of which should be of the value of forty shillings, and that each of such last-mentioned pieces should be of the weight of ten pennyweights, six grains, and 5480-10000 troy weight, of standard gold; and that certain other pieces of gold money should be coined, which should be called sovereigns, each of which should be of the value of twenty shillings, and that each of such last-mentioned pieces should be of the weight of five pennyweights, three grains, and 2470-10000 troy weight, of standard gold; and that certain other pieces of gold money should be coined, which should be called half sovereigns, each of which should be of the value of ten shillings, and that each of such last-mentioned pieces should be of the weight of two pennyweights, thirteen grains, 6370-10000 troy weight, of standard gold: and we have further thought fit to order, that every such five-pound piece should have, for the obverse impression, our effigy, with the inscription, "Victoria Dei Gratia," and the date of the year; and, for the reverse, the ensigns armorial of the United Kingdom, contained in a plain shield, surmounted by the Royal crown, and encircled with a laurel wreath, with the inscription, "Britanniarum Regina, Fid. Def.," having the united rose, thistle, and shamrock placed under the shield, and, upon the edge of the piece, the words, "Decus et Tutamen," and the words, "Anno Regni," and the year of our reign; and that every such double sovereign should have the same obverse and reverse impression and inscription in all respects as the five pound piece, with the same words on the edge; and that every such sovereign should have the same obverse and reverse impression in all respects as the five-pound piece, but (instead of the words) should have a graining on the edge; and that every such half-sovereign should have for the obverse impression the aforesaid effigy, inscription, and date, and for the reverse the ensigns armorial, contained in a shield decorated with the same inscription as the five-pound piece, but without the wreath, and should have the same graining upon the edge as the sovereign; and we have also thought fit to order, that certain pieces of silver money should be coined which should be called crowns, and that every such crown should have the same

obverse and reverse impression and inscription in all respects as the five-pound piece, with the same words on the edge; and that certain other pieces of silver money should be coined, which should be called half-crowns, and that every such half-crown should have the same obverse and reverse impression and inscription as the crown, but, instead of the words, a graining upon the edge; and that certain other pieces of silver money should be coined, which should be called shillings, and that every such shilling should have, for the obverse impression, the aforesaid effigy, with the inscription, "Victoria Dei Gratia, Britannia: Reg. F. D.," and, for the reverse, the words, "One Shilling," placed in the centre of the piece, having an olive branch on one side, and an oak branch on the other, and surmounted by the Royal crown, with the date of the year, and a graining on the edge, as used for his late Majesty's coin; and that certain other pieces of silver money should be coined, which should be called sixpences, and that every such sixpence should have the same obverse impression and inscription as the shilling, and, for the reverse, the word "Sixpence," with the olive and oak branch, and date of the year, with a graining upon the edge the same as the shilling; and that certain other pieces of silver money should be coined, which should be called groats or fourpences, and every such groat or fourpence should have the same above impression and inscription as the shilling, and should have for the reverse a figure of Britannia holding the trident in one hand, and having the other hand placed upon a shield impressed with the union cross, and should have round the figure the words "Four Pence" and the date of the year below, with a graining on the edge, as used for his late Majesty's coin; and that certain other pieces of silver money should be coined, which shall be called the Queen's Maunday moneys, of fourpence, threepence, twopence, and one penny, each of which should have the same obverse impression and inscription as the shilling, and for the reverse the respective figures 4, 3, 2, 1 (according to the denomination or value of the piece) in the centre, with the date of the year placed across the figure, and encircled by an oak wreath, surmounted by the Royal Crown, with a plain edge, as used for his late Majesty's coin; all which said silver coin we have ordered to be of the weight and fineness provided by an Act passed in the fifty-sixth year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the Third, intituled, "An Act to provide for a new Silver Coinage, and to regulate the Currency of the Gold and Silver Coin of this Realm;" and We have also thought fit to order, that certain pieces of copper money should be coined, which should be called pennies, and that every such copper penny should have for the obverse impression the aforesaid effigy, with the inscription, "Victoria Dei Gratia," and the date of the year; and for the reverse, a figure of Britannia holding the trident with one hand, and having the other hand placed upon a shield impressed

with the union cross, with the inscription, "Britannia Reg. Fid. Def.," and below the figure, the united Rose, Shamrock, and Thistle, with a plain edge, as used for his late Majesty's coin; and that certain other copper money should be coined, which should be called halfpennies, and that every such halfpenny should have the same obverse and reverse impression and inscription, and the same plain edge as the penny; and that certain other copper money should be coined, which should be called farthings, and that every such farthing should have the same obverse and reverse impression and inscription, and the said plain edge as the penny. And whereas pieces of money of the above description respectively, have been coined at our Mint, and will be coined there in pursuance of orders which we have given for that purpose, we have, therefore, by and with the advice of our Privy Council, thought fit to issue this our Royal proclamation; and we do hereby ordain, declare, and command, that the said pieces of money respectively so coined, and to be coined, as aforesaid, shall be current and lawful money of the Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and that the said gold coins shall be called respectively five pound pieces, double sovereigns, sovereigns, and half sovereigns; and that the said silver coins shall be called respectively crowns, half crowns, shillings, sixpences, groats, or fourpences, and the Queen's Maunday moneys; and the said copper coins shall be called pennies, halfpennies, and farthings, and shall pass and be received as current and lawful money of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland; every such five-pound piece as of the value of one hundred shillings of like lawful money, and every such double sovereign as of the value of forty shillings of like lawful money, and every such sovereign as of the value of twenty shillings of like lawful money, and every such half sovereign as of the value of ten shillings of like lawful money; every such crown as of the value of five shillings of like lawful money; every such half crown as of the value of two shillings and sixpence of like lawful money; every such shilling as of the value of twelve pence of like lawful money; every such sixpence as of the value of six pence of like lawful money: every such groat or four pennypiece as of the value of four pence of like lawful money; the said Maunday moneys of the value of four pence, three pence, two pence, or one penny, respectively, as the case may be, and every such penny of copper as of the value of one penny of the like lawful money; and every such halfpenny as of the value of one halfpenny of like lawful money; and every such farthing as of the value of a farthing of like lawful money, in all payments whatsoever.—Given at our Court at Buckingham Palace, this fifth day of July, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight, in the second year of our reign. GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

GERMAN CURRENCY.—It is known, that through the uncontrolled emission of coinages variously debased by some of the petty German States composing part of the Prussian custom-house union, great loss and inconvenience were experienced by the foreign and native traders, and the community in general, throughout Germany and Prussia. Some of the Princes at the head of these small provinces are said to have cleared large sums by the issue and compulsory circulation of this spurious currency, which, after so issuing, they refused to receive back from the people, in the shape of taxes, or otherwise, at the same rate of value at which it was issued. In consequence of the complaints which naturally arose, the subject was taken up by the leading parties of the confederacy, and brought before the Assembly of Delegates, sitting at Dresden, upon its general affairs. By them it was referred to a committee charged to agree upon a coinage which should be common and current in the whole commercial confederation of the States, and of one equal and determined standard of value. According to advices from Dresden of the 21st ult., it appears that no result had yet been arrived at further than the issue of a coin of the value of two German crowns, or three and a half Rhenish florins, having on the one side the arms of the State struck off, and on the other the words, "Federation Money."

AFFAIRS OF THE ROYAL MINT.—THE NEW CORONATION MEDAL.—On the 9th of July, a vote of 3,703*l.* was proposed in parliament to defray the expenses of the several branches of the Mint. In reply to some observations from Mr. CLAY,

Mr. LABOUCHERE said, that the execution of the late coronation medal had been intrusted to Signor Pistrucci, medal engraver to the Queen, an artist who enjoyed a high, and, he believed he might say, a well-merited reputation in this department of art. He need only refer to the medal for the coronation of George IV. to show how capable Signor Pistrucci was to do justice to such a subject. He felt bound to admit, however, which he did most fully, that the present medal was not executed in the manner which might have been expected, and which the occasion certainly merited; but this, he believed, was owing to this single circumstance, namely, the total deprivation of sight which Signor Pistrucci had suffered during the last fortnight he was engaged upon it. Signor Pistrucci, he was aware, felt very sorely on the subject, and had written to him (Mr. Labouchere) a letter, stating how sensible he was that the medal was not such a one as was due to the country on this auspicious occasion.

Mr. HUME said, he thought it a great pity that these medals should not be put into the pot again, and something worth having produced out of them—[a laugh]. He was sorry for the accidents which had befallen the artist; but really this was an occa-

sion, if ever one existed, when a fine work of art should be produced. He had last night compared the medal of George IV. with the new medal, and he must say he was ashamed to show them together. The penny medals which were sold in the streets were as good in many respects. The lion's head, for instance, on the reverse, was most disgraceful. He should be sorry, for the honour of the country, that such a thing should get distributed in foreign countries; and, therefore, he did hope to hear that all that had been distributed should be recalled, and something given out in their stead worthy of the arts of the country. Before he sat down he wished to know whether there was any likelihood of a coinage of silver threepenny and twopenny pieces for general circulation? The fourpenny pieces had been found extremely convenient; and he thought the principle might be extended with advantage.

Mr. LABOUCHERE said, with respect to the issue of silver pieces of less value than fourpence, that they were coined, as was well known, only for use as Maunday money; and he should be sorry to see that practice discontinued, as the silver penny, he believed, was the most ancient penny in existence. He did not think, however, that there could be any advantage in coining silver pieces smaller than fourpence for general circulation. He thought the fourpenny pieces were low enough in value to answer all the purposes of commerce. With regard to the coronation medal, he must say he thought the Hon. Member for Kilkenny had dealt rather harder with it than it deserved. He would only mention that such was the success of the same artist with the medal of George IV. that the whole expense of preparing it was returned by the profit from the sale of the medal itself,

Mr. WARBURTON said, that if the Committee on the Mint department had been renewed, as had been expected, the unfortunate failure of the coronation medal would probably not have taken place.

Mr. LABOUCHERE observed, that he had been anxious for the renewal of the committee in question; but in consequence of the illness of one of the heads of the departments, whose advice and experience would have been of great value, it was thought better not to do so.

Mr. WARBURTON *bore testimony to the great improvement which had been effected in the coinage.*

Mr. SLANEY thought it would be desirable to have a smaller gold coin than half a sovereign. He was of opinion that 6*s.* 8*d.* would be a good sum to fix upon.

83,212*l.* was then proposed for retired allowances and compensation.

STATE OF NUMISMATIC KNOWLEDGE IN ENGLAND.—In a useful little volume just published on the "History and Geography of

Greece," the writer, in noticing the famed city of Rhodes, and its colossal statue of the sun, adds, with becoming caution, "and Rhodian coins are said to be still extant, exhibiting on the one side the rose, and on the other the sun." Any dealer in coins will show this gentleman a score of these pieces, which *ought* to be *well known* to a writer on classical antiquities. In the "*Pictorial History of England,*" a large brass coin of Caracalla is described, and engraved as of Antoninus Pius! It will scarcely be believed that the editor of a work of such pretensions could be so destitute of historical knowledge as not to know that the surname of *Antoninus* was borne by several of the Roman emperors, or that his antiquarian acquirements were so limited as to cause him to mistake the ferocious, snarling countenance of the tyrant Caracalla for the calm, philosophic aspect of Antoninus: yet such is the fact, and this is to be "the people's book." Is the forthcoming "*Pictorial Edition of Shakspeare*" to be illustrated under the superintendence of the same gentleman? H. W. D.

FRENCH NUMISMATIC PRIZE.—At the August meeting of "*L' Academie des Inscriptions et des Belles Lettres,*" the Numismatic Prize was awarded to Mr. Millingen, for his Sylloge of Ancient Unedited Coins. For a review of this work, see Numismatic Journal, Vol. II. p. 81.

FRENCH MEDALS.—It is so seldom our agreeable duty to have to notice Numismatic works, or even works having a Numismatic tendency, that we cannot afford to pass without comment an unpretending little work, lately issued, bearing the following title: "*A Brief Descriptive Catalogue of the Medals struck in France and its Dependencies, between the Years* 1789 *and* 1830, *contained in the British Museum; with the Deficiencies noted.*" By the Editor of "The Napoleon Medals." [Edward Edwards.] London: 8vo. 1837. [Not printed for sale.]

The nature and use of this "Descriptive Catalogue" (and it is really nothing more) are so obvious from the title, that little can be said respecting it beyond what must occur to every reader. Mr. Edwards states, that what he had principally in view in writing was, "to show that it would be easy for the British Museum to publish such brief lists of several parts of the various collections, and more especially of the coins and medals, as would be of considerable service, pending [!] the publication of fuller catalogues, requiring more careful and deliberate preparation." This motive is laudable, and entitles the author to our gratitude; but if by a "brief list.....pending a fuller catalogue," Mr. Edwards means such a description of a coin as the following:—"*No.* 14.—*Date:* Aug. 16, 1804.—*Size:* 40″.—*Description of Piece:* Medal.—*Occasion on which struck:* Distribution of decorations at the camp of Boulogne. Oath of the "Army of England."—

Description, &c. of the Obverse: HONNEUR · LEGIONNAIRE · AUX · BRAVES · DE · L'ARMEE. Napoleon on a curule chair, distributing the decorations. *Exergue:* A · BOULOGNE · LE · XXVIII · THERM · AN · XII · XVI · AOUT MDCCCIV. Jeuffroy.—*Description, &c. of the Reverse:* Plan of the position of the Army, with references to the numbers in the Exergue. *First Exergue:* SERMENT · DE · L'ARMEE · D'ANGLETERRE · A · L'EMPEREUR · NAPOLEON. *Second Exergue:* No. 1. CAVALERIE; 2. INFANTERIE; 3. GENEREAUX; 4. DRAPEAUX; 5. LEGIONNAIRES; 6. GARDE · DE · L'EMPER^{EUR}; 7. MUSI^{ENS} · E^{T} · T^{BOURS}; 8. E^{T} · M^{OR} · D^{S} · C^{S} · 9. E^{T} · M^{OR} · G^{RAL}; 10. LETRONE; Jaley;"—if, we say, the author considers such a description as *this* brief, we fear the publication of "fuller catalogues" will be "*pending*" for a longer space of time than we shall like to wait for them. The preceding extract is not unkindly given, however. We wish to afford a specimen of the labour which has been bestowed on the little work before us; and as regards Mr. Edwards' main object, he is fortunately aware, that "the most earnest endeavours of the Trustees, and the most assiduous exertions of the Officers, of the British Museum (and of late there have been repeated evidences of both), will be insufficient, unless a more worthy and liberal pecuniary supply be accorded by the Government."

Monnaies Royales de France.—It is with much pleasure we acknowledge the receipt of M. Conbrouse's specimen of the *Description des Monnaies Royales de France*, a work which he had conceived the project of composing, and to which he had devoted himself with assiduity and zeal. He was eagerly proceeding, when his progress was arrested by a sense of his inability to carry through an undertaking of so great magnitude. He abandoned the attempt; but having become possessed of a fine series of the coins of Mary of Scotland and France, he has made them the subject of this "specimen" of the contemplated work.

He was also desirous of giving at the same time five-franc pieces of the greatest variety. One of Baden, with the head of Napoleon, he describes minutely in the specimen, and takes occasion to remark on the great and incalculable benefit that would ensue to commerce from the decimal system, which Napoleon was the means of spreading so extensively; and does not hesitate to pronounce, that the result would infallibly be—uniformity of money, weight, and measure—unanimity of interest—and the establishment of a permanent and universal peace.

He appears to be an able, industrious, and accurate Numismatist; but we cannot help remarking, in passing, that such themes as Mary Stuart and Napoleon were not to be approached without disturbing the equilibrium of a mind possessed, as M. Conbrouse's seems to be, with rather romantic notions of history.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

The Society again met on THURSDAY THE 21st JUNE—

Dr. Lee, President, in the Chair.

Presents of books, coins, and casts having been announced, Mr. John Williams delivered a Lecture on the Mode of taking Casts of Coins and Medals in Sulphur.

Mr. Samuel Birch read a paper on the Coins of Caracalla and Geta, with the head of the latter erased, struck at Pergamus and Stratonicæa.

The Marquis Spineto,
Sir John Doratt,
Captain Hely, residing at Rome,
James Fraser, Esq.
E. Nelson Alexander, Esq.
W. H. Morrison, Esq., of the Royal Mint,
E. J. Powell, Esq., Solicitor to the Mint,
Robert Fox, Esq., of Godmanchester,
George Etherly, Esq.
P. Hardwicke, Esq.
Were elected Members of the Society.

The President then gave notice from the Chair, that the Annual General Meeting of the Society would be held on Thursday the 19th July, at 3, P.M.; and that the Ballot for Officers for the ensuing Session would commence at 4 o'clock, and close at 5.

THURSDAY THE 19TH JULY.

Dr. Lee, President, in the Chair.

The members having assembled, the ballot for the officers of the Society was opened, and the following gentlemen were elected:—

President.

John Lee, Esq. LL.D. F.R.S.

Vice-Presidents.

Thomas Burgon, Esq.—Sir Henry Ellis, K.H. F.R.S.

Treasurer.

Dr. Lee.

Secretaries.

J. Y. Akerman, Esq., F.S.A.—Francis Hobler, Esq.

Foreign Secretary.

Captain W. H. Smyth, R.N; K.S.F; F.R.S.

Librarian.

W. D. Haggard, Esq. F.S.A. & F.R.A.S.

Council.

C. F. Barnewell, Esq. F.R.S.; F.S.A.
J. D. Cuff, Esq. F.S.A.
Isaac Cullimore, Esq. M.R.S.L.
Edwin Guest, Esq. *Fellow of Caius College,* Cambridge.
Edward Hawkins, Esq. F.R.S.; F.S.A.
J. W. Morrison, Esq. Royal Mint.
Samuel Sharpe, Esq.
Colonel C. R. Fox.
H. H. Wilson, Esq. *Boden Professor of Sanscrit,* Oxford.
William Wyon, Esq. R.A.

A statement of the affairs of the Society was read, by which it appears that a considerable sum remains in the hands of the Treasurer.

The President then delivered an address, in which he took a review of the labours of the Society during the past Session.

The Society then adjourned to Thursday, the 18th of November.

The following is the List of the Members at this time :—

Honorary Members.

Algernon, Lord Prudhoe, F.R.S., F.S.A.
Captain J. J. F. Hely, *Rome*.

Members.

Akerman, J. Y., Esq., F.S.A. L. & E.
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Baily, Francis, Esq. D.C.L., President R.A.S., V.P. & Treasurer R.S., F.G.S., M.R.I.A. &c.
Barker, E. H. Esq.
Barnewell, C.F. Esq., M.A., F.R.S., F.S.A.
Bate, John, Esq. Jun.
Bergne, J. B. Esq.
Betham, Sir William, M.R.I.A.
Benson, Robert, Esq.
Bingley, Henry, Esq.
Birch, Samuel, Esq.
Bishop, George Esq. F.S.A., F.R.A.S.
Bonomi, Joseph, Esq.
Bowler, Lieutenant Colonel,
Boyne, Robert, Esq.
Brandreth, William Henry, Esq. Jun. F.S.A.
Brice, Rev. Edward C.
Bristoll, T. Esq.
Brooke, William Henry, Esq. F.R.S., F.S.A., F.R.A.S.
Brown, William Henry, Esq.
Brumell, John, Esq.
Burgon, Thomas, Esq.
Burgon, John William, Esq.
Burney, Dr. C.P., D.D., F.R.S., F.S.A., F.R.A.S.
Burton, James, Esq.
Bute, The Most Noble the Marquis of, D.C.L., F.R.S., F.R.A.S.

Chambers, Montague, Esq.
Children, John George, Esq. V.P.R.S., F.R.S.E., F.S.A., F.L.S., F.G.S.
Corner, George R. Esq. F.S.A.
Cory, Robert, Esq. F.S.A.
Cuff, James Dodsley, Esq. F.S.A.
Cullimore, Isaac, Esq. M.R.S.L.
Cureton, Harry, Esq.
Cust, Richard, Esq.

Davis, Arthur, Esq.
Dawson, The very Rev. H. R., Dean of St. Patrick's.
Devonshire, His Grace the Duke of
Diamond, F. H. Esq.
Diamond, H. W. Esq. F.S.A.
Dickinson, Binley, Esq.
Dilke, Charles W. Esq. LL.B.
Doratt, Sir John, M.D.
Doubleday, John, Esq.

Edmonds, Christopher, Esq.
Ellis, Sir Henry, K.H., B.C.L., Sec. S.A., M.R.J.A.

Field, Henry William, Esq.
Field, John, Esq.
Firmin, R. S. Esq.
Fox, Colonel C. R.
Fox, Robert, Esq.
Fraser, James, Esq.
Freebairn, Alfred R. Esq.
Freeman, John, Esq.

Gage, John, Esq. M.A., Director S.A., F.L.S.
Giles, Rev. John Allen, M.A., F.S.A.
Gilbert, Davies, Esq. D.C.L., V.P.R.S. Hon. M.R.S.L., Hon. M.R.I.A., F.S.A., F.L.S., V.P.G.S., F.R.A.S.
Goodall, Rev. Dr., Provost of Eto College.
Gompertz, Benjamin, Esq., F.R.S., F.R.A.S.
Glenny, George, Esq.
Goldsmid, Isaac Lyon, Esq. F.R.S., F.S.A., F.L.S., F.G.S., F.R.A.S., M.R.S.L.
Guest, Edwin, Esq.
Green, T. A. Esq. F.S.A.

Haggard, W. D. Esq. F.S.A., F.R.A.S.
Hamilton, William Richard, Esq. President R.G.S., F.R.S., M.R.S.L. V.P.S.A. &c.

Harrison, George R. H., Esq. F.S.A., *Blue Mantle.*
Hawkins, Edward, Esq. F.R.S., F.S.A., F.L.S.
Hardwick, Philip, Esq., F.R.S., F.S.A.
Hawksley, Rev. J. W.
Hearne, John, Esq.
Hincks, Rev. Edward, D.D.
Hobler, Francis, Esq.
Hodges, William Robert, Esq.
Hollier, Richard, Esq. F.S.A.
Horsefield, Dr.
Hunt, Rev. Philip, F.S.A., F.R.A.S
Huxtable, John, Esq.

Janson, Joseph, Esq.
Jerdan, William, Esq. F.S.A.
Jones, William Hanbury, Esq.
King, Thomas, William, Esq. F.S.A. *Rouge Dragon.*

Landmann, Col. George.
Leake, Col. William Martin, F.R.S. M.R.S.L. &c.
Lee, John, L.L.D., F.R.S., F.S.A., Treasurer R.A.S.
Littlewood, George, Esq.
Loscombe, C. W. Esq.

Mackie, Rev. John William, M.A., F.R.S.
Maitland, William Fuller, Esq.
Martin, Rev. Joseph William.
Martin, Montgomery, Esq.
Morrison, James William, Esq,
Morrison, William Hampson, Esq.
Marshall, George, Esq.
Montefiore, Sir Moses, Knt. F.R.S.
Moyes, James, Esq. F.R.A.S.
Mullins, Edward, Esq.
Musgrave, Sir George, Bart. F.S.A.
Mutlow, James, Esq.

Newman, John, Esq. F.S.A.
Nichols, J. B. Esq. F.S.A.
Nichols, J. G. Esq. F.S.A.
Nicolas, Sir Harris, K.C.M.G.
Nightingale, Benjamin, Esq.

Pettigrew, T. J. Esq. F.R.S., F.S.A., F.L.S., M.R.A.S.
Pettigrew, W. V. Esq.
Pfister, J. G. Esq.
Philpott, Rev. Henry,
Pickering, William, Esq.
Powell, Edward James, Esq.
Pretty, Edward, Esq.
Purland, Theodosius, Esq.

Reade, Rev. J. B. M.A., F.R.S.
Renouard, Rev. G. C.
Rhodes, Abraham, Esq.
Robson, Harry, Esq.
Rogers, Samuel, Esq. F.R.S., F.S.A.
Rowe, G. R. Esq. M.D., F.S.A.
Rutter, John, Esq.

Saull, W. D. Esq. F.S.A., F.G.S., F.R.A.S.
Scratton, D. R. Esq.
Scriven, Mr. Serjeant,
Sharpe, Samuel, Esq. F.G.S.
Smee, William, Esq.
Smee, William Ray, Esq.
Smith, Benjamin, Esq. F.R.A.S.
Smith, C. R. Esq. F.S.A.
Smith, E. O. Esq. F.S.A.
Smyth, Capt. W. H., R.N., K.S.F., Foreign Secretary R.S., M.R.I.A., F.S.A., Foreign Sec. R.A.S.
Sotheby, Leigh, Esq.
Spencer, Edward, Esq. F.G.S.
Spineto, The Marchese di
Spurrier, Thomas Henry, Esq.
Stevenson, Seth, Esq.
Stratford, Lieutenant, W. S. R.N., F.R.S., F.R.A.S.

Taylor, Richard, Esq. F.R.S., F.S.A., F.R.A.S. &c.
Taylor, William, Esq.
Till, William, Esq.
Tonna, Lewis, H. J.
Turnor, Rev. Charles, F.R.A.S.

Varley, B. M. Esq.

Wadmore, James, Esq. F.R.A.S.
Wansey, William, Esq. F.S.A.
White, W. A. A, Esq. F.R.S.
White, James, Esq.
Wigan, A. Esq.
Willett, R. Esq.
Williams, John, Esq.
Wilson, E. Esq. Jun.
[illegible], H. H. Esq. Boden Professor of [illegible], Oxford, F.R.S., M.R.A.S.
Windus, Thomas, Esq., F.S.A.
Wyon, Benjamin, Esq.
Wyon, William, Esq. R.A., F.S.A.

Yeates, Thomas, Esq.

Associates.

Barker, John, Esq. *Syria.*
Cartier, M. Edouard, *Amboise.*
Dietrichstein, Count M. von, *Vienna.*
Dumersan, The Chevalier Marion, *Paris.*
Greville, Mons. C. De,
Gesenius, William, *Halle, Prussia.*
Grote, Dr. H. *Hanover.*
Grotefend, Dr. G. F. *Hanover.*
Lelewel, Joachim, *Brussels.*
Leemans, Dr. Conrad, *Leyden.*
Mionnet, The Chev. T. E. *Paris.*
Saulcy, M. F. de, *Metz.*
Saussaye, M. L. de la, *Blois.*
Straszewicz, Joseph, *Brussels.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

We are favoured with Mr. Rolfe's kind communication. The gold coin is clearly a barbarous imitation of one of the Merovingian series. We were led to this conclusion on our first inspection of his very accurate cast; and on comparing it with some of the ruder types of the series above-mentioned, are confirmed in our opinion.

The coin of Harold, of which our Northampton correspondent has sent us a very clever drawing, is not remarkable. The Carausius is of the same type as that which led Stukeley into his absurd speculations on "Oriuna."

"C. R. S.'s" coins are, 1. A billon denier of one of the earls of Blois, struck at Chartres, in the 12th century; 2. An episcopal denier of Cologne.

"E. H." We are sorry that J. W. B., the initials of the writer, were omitted to be appended to the paragraph on the coronation medal in the 'Miscellanies' of our last number.

M. Lienard will accept our apology for not having noticed the receipt of his interesting dissertation, which we had mislaid. We may recur to the subject in a future number.

ERRATA.

Page 67, *line* 17, *for* really is, *read* recalls in
— 25, *for* nobili, *read* nobile (in some copies)

XVI.

ON THE STYCA, SUPPOSED OF HUATH OF NORTHUMBRIA.

SIR,

IN the first and very interesting number of your Numismatic Chronicle, I have read with much pleasure two very able and ingenious papers on the coins of Northumbria, by Mr. Hawkins; but as there are some points in which I cannot coincide with that learned gentleman, I shall feel much obliged by your laying before the public the following observations which this subject has suggested to me.

In the appropriation of the coins formerly assigned to Egbert, king of Kent, to Edbert and Alcred, kings of Northumbria, and Egbert, archbishop of York, I fully coincide with him, indeed it would be rather singular if I did not, as you will perceive, by referring to the "Gentleman's Magazine," for February 1827, and also to the Numismatic Journal for September 1836, that the same appropriation of these coins was long since made by me; and I now feel assured that the great weight of Mr. Hawkins' authority will satisfy the reader as to the justice of this arrangement.

The coins given to Aldfrith, A. D. 685, I have no doubt are also rightly appropriated.

On the names *Alchired* and *Ecfvair*, mentioned by Ruding as occurring on some of the coins formerly assigned to Egbert of Kent, the reader will find some remarks in the article in the Gentleman's Magazine just alluded to. That the former name was intended for Alchred, there can, I believe, be no question; the appropriation of the other is, however, much more uncertain. My conjecture was

that it might be intended for EEFVRID, the R being often formed like A, and the D like R; but the skeattas adduced by Mr. Hawkins, from the collections of Mr. Cuff and Mr. Brumell, have much shaken this opinion; and I am now rather inclined to coincide with Mr. Hawkins, in assigning it to Elfwald; however, as I have not seen any of this discription, I am unable to give any decided opinion.

In the Gentleman's Magazine for April, 1827, I have expressed an opinion that the coin of Egfrid seemed to belong to Egfrid, king of Mercia, A. D. 796, rather than to the Northumbrian prince of that name, the neatness of workmanship, and the occurrence of the word *Rex*, being more in accordance with the coins of Mercia, than with the early coins of Northumbria, on which the word *Rex* has not hitherto been found, those of Eanred, A. D. 808, and one or two of Eardulf's, being the first on which it occurs.

For the reason just mentioned, I am more inclined to attribute the skeatta of Ethelred to the first prince of that name, who began to reign in A. D. 774, than to Ethelred II., A. D. 840, the word *Rex* not occurring on it.

That the stycas bearing the name Eardulf, with (in one or two instances) the word *Rex*, belong to A. D. 796, and not to any subsequent period, as supposed by Pinkerton; I fully agree with Mr. Hawkins, as he will find, by referring to the Gentleman's Magazine, for April 1827.

From the specimens we have of the Northumbrian coins, it would appear that before the reign of Eardulf, the skeatta was the prevailing coin of that kingdom; and from that period, to the death of Osberht, the styca; after which, the penny was probably the most common: but no general rule as to the use of one denomination and the exclusion of others will be found to answer, as we find a styca of Aldfrid and a penny of Eanred, not to mention the disputed skeattas

of Huth, which, even if excluded from the place I have assigned them, must be admitted to be not earlier than the middle of the ninth century.

I now come to the coins just alluded to; and which, since the discovery of Sir Henry Ellis, have attracted so much attention. We shall begin with the styca assigned to Huth, premising that the right appropriation of the skeattas, is in no wise affected by that of the styca in question, both, as Mr. Hawkins justly observes, being to be considered on their own merits.

The stycas of Eanred bearing on the reverse the moneyer's name, *Huatred*, induce a strong suspicion, according to Mr. Hawkins, that the name on Sir H. Ellis's styca, is that of one of Eanred's moneyers, whilst the appearance of the word REX after that name, would lead to a different conclusion. The other side, if legible, would certainly have decided the question; but as this evidence is wanting, we must wait until that of a more perfect coin of the same mintage is afforded us: I shall therefore say nothing more as to this coin, but proceed to the consideration of the two more important questions. First, Whether such a king as Huth, or Huath, could have reigned in Northumberland at the period mentioned? and—Second, If so, whether the coins I have given to this prince are rightly appropriated?

As to the first question, the Saxon Chronicle agrees with Brompton, in stating that Anlaf was expelled in A. D. 952, and that another prince was then raised to the throne by the Northumbrians. This prince by the former authority is called Eric or Yric, and by the latter Huth; and that they both alluded to the same person, might seem probable from their both calling him the son of Harold. If then we suppose Eric and Huth to be the same person, I see no inconsis-

tency in his having different names; much less that the same king, particularly at different periods of his reign, should have struck pennies and skeattas.

The point, however, seems capable of receiving a different, and, indeed, a far more probable interpretation.

It appears from various authorities, that, from the time of Anlaf's expulsion to the final extinction of the Northumbrian kingdom in A. D. 955, that kingdom was in a most unsettled state, agitated by two parties; and that, on one occasion, Eric fled to Scotland.

Sir Francis Palgrave, in his history of the Anglo-Saxons, p. 231, speaks of Eric as having been raised to the throne in A. D. 947, and that after his expulsion and death, *another* Danish chieftain assumed the *Royal Title*, and reigned from 952 to 954, about the time assigned by Brompton to Huth; and if it should be objected that this king was not likely to have been Huth, who is called the son of Harald, I shall only reply that history speaks of several sons of Harald; and Baden, in his History of Norway, p. 14, says, "Harald had the policy, when an opportunity offered, to marry the daughters of the kings whom he conquered: thus he had a great number of sons of a different stock."

These reasons will, I think, be considered sufficient, at least to shew that there is no improbability in supposing a king of the name of Huth to have ruled in Northumberland in the middle of the tenth century, whilst, on the other hand, we have the positive evidence of Brompton in support of the fact.

Supposing, then, the existence of such a prince, the appropriation to him of the skeattas in question, will, I think, be admitted to stand on rather a solid foundation; the legends of the coins seem to be much stronger evidence on one side, than that relating to the size of the coins can possibly

be on the other, whilst I cannot avoid considering the coin of Edred, I have adduced, as a very strong confirmation of my opinion. Mr. Hawkins considers the word MON rather as a blunder of the moneyer, but he seems not to have regarded the large annulets at each side of the cross, exactly as we have them on the coins in question. I am not contending for the certainty, but for the strong probability of the appropriation I have ventured to make; and I look on the coins themselves (which appear to me of a date not far removed from the period alluded to) and the passage of Brompton as mutually giving support to each other.

On the subject of skeattas in general, the reader will find some observations in the Gentleman's Magazine, for May 1827, and I shall only here add a few remarks suggested by the paper of Mr. Hawkins.

I cannot consider the cross on these coins as any evidence as to the period when they were struck, that symbol not being always adopted with any reference to christianity, but copied, along with other types and symbols, from the coins of the Greek emperors, and other christian princes.

Mr. Hawkins considers the rude figure on Plate I. Nos. 5 to 16, of Ruding, to have been intended for a bird; but I think most of them, if not all, are representations of rude heads, as one in my own collection, and which differs but little from those in Ruding, unquestionably is.

Mr. Hawkins will perceive, by reference to the Gentleman's Magazine for May 1827, that, as to the skeattas Nos. 6, 7, 9, &c., of Plate 26, I fully agree with him; and I also agree with him in opinion, that the skeattas were probably first struck about the seventh century.

A few months since a parcel of coins, Hiberno-Danish, and Anglo-Saxon, found, I understand, in Co. Wexford, came into my possession. The latter, thirteen in number, and all in good, and most of them in fine preservation, contain several interesting varieties of the coins of the Confessor, one of them with *Pacx*, similar to that of Cnut, No. 25 of Ruding, but unpublished as to the coins of the Confessor; and as most of these coins exhibit either a mint or a moneyer, and sometimes both, not contained in Ruding's list, I think a description of them may be interesting.

		Type.
1 Harold I.	*PVLPIЄ · ON*ꟼENT.	Ruding Pl. 24, No. 4
2 Confessor	*EDꟼAR · ON*BEORE	 " 25, " 22
3	*SIDEMAN ·ON*PERH.	 " " " "
4	†IFINE · ON PINEEST Probably for Lifinc.	 " " " "
5	*LADMÆR · ON · PINE	 " 25 " 23
6	†LEOFSTAN · ON · LVN	 " " " 33
7	ÆLFPINE ·ON†EEXEE	 " " " "
8	LEOFPINE · ON†PELI	 " " " "
9	LEOFPINE ·ON†EEEL	 " " " "
10	†MANA · ON · EENT	 " 26 " 37
11	*HDA :: EMAN · ON · BR	 " " " "
12	LIFINE · ON†LVNDE	 " " " "
13	THΛONAHƆƎIZ* Retrograde.	Unpublished type.

It will be perceived that on six of these coins unpublished names of moneyers appear, and on three unpublished mints, of which Nos. 2 and 3 are particularly remarkable, the former reads BEORE, and, I think, was probably intended for Berkhamstead, in Hertfordshire, which was a place of

* Unpublished.

† Varieties of spelling different from those in Ruding.

great importance at the time of the Conquest, and was given by the Conqueror to Robert, earl of Morton and Cornwall, who built a castle there. No. 3 reads PERH, for *Wareham*, one of the mints mentioned in Domesday Book, but of which no coins have been hitherto discovered. Nos. 8 and 9, the former struck at *Wallingford*, the latter at *Aylesbury*, and both bearing the same moneyer's name, were probably struck by the same person, these two places being not far distant from each other.

Nos. 10, 11, 12, from the extreme smallness of their circumference, would, at first sight, appear to be halfpence, but their weights 15 to 16 grains, whilst those of the others are from 14 to 18 grains, prove them to be pennies.

I remain, Sir, your obedient Servant,

JOHN LINDSAY.

Cork, November 13th, 1838.

XVII.

ROMAN COIN MOULDS.

[As several papers have from time to time appeared in the transactions of the Royal Society, and of the Society of Antiquaries, on the Roman Coin Moulds which have been discovered in different parts of Britain, it is judged expedient to place before English Numismatists, a translation of two important memoirs, recently published in the "Revue de la Numismatique Françoise," in order that they may have before them the whole series of facts, which have conducted us, at last, to a satisfactory conclusion, as to the origin and use of these moulds. These papers were read before the Numismatic Society, November 22nd, 1838.]

THE Roman coin moulds which have, at different times, been found in France in great numbers together, and

particularly at Lyons, have exercised the curiosity of almost every antiquary. At their head must be ranked Count de Caylus, who has treated the subject at length. Opinions are divided with regard to them; some considering them the work of forgers, others thinking that the Romans themselves, at certain epochs, moulded their money; and especially about the time when the quality of the silver began to be greatly altered.[1]

I have drawn two of these moulds to illustrate my observations; and I hope to be able to resolve, or at least to clear up, some difficulties which have hitherto attended the subject. They were obtained from a collection, discovered some years ago, on the heights of Fourvieres, near Lyons; thirty-four of them came into my possession. It seems that there was a greater number of them; and that this same discovery is the subject of Grivaud de la Vincelle's work, entitled "A Collection of Ancient Monuments of Gaul."

No. 1. is, by the obverse, one of Soemias' inscription, IVLIA·SOEMIAS·AVG. Reverse PONT·TR·P·VI·COS.[2] Pallas, standing, holding in one hand an inverted spear, and victory in the other.

[1] *i. e.* after the reigns of the Antonines. There had, however, been occasional reductions in the standard of the Roman silver, long previous to the reign of Antoninus Pius. The Denarii of Mark Antony have about 10 grains of alloy in 56 of pure silver, while those of Augustus have about 2 grains only of alloy; this alone was sufficient to cause that mutiny of the triumvir's soldiers, to which Pliny alludes.—*Editor N. C.*

[2] The legend of the reverse here illustrates the observations which follow hereafter; the pontifical and tribunitian record can have nothing to do with a denarius of Soemias: it doubtless belongs to a coin of Severus or Caracalla; certainly not of her son Elagabalus, who held the tribunitian power but five times. Of course, it is evident that, in the present instance, the reverse of the *mould* could never appear as the reverse of a *coin*, having the head

No. 3 has the head of Caracalla laureated with the inscription ANTONINVS · PIVS · AVG without any reverse.

These moulds are of earth, which has acquired by fire a dark red colour, and the consistency of brick. The paste of which they are made is rather fine.

It is easy to understand the way in which the ancients used these moulds to cast their money. They first worked up some clay, so as to form a tablet flat on both sides, and about two lines[3] thick on the border, where it was rounded. A piece of money was applied to each side, which of course left a hollow impression in the clay. The tablet intended to form the end of the pile, had an impression on but one side. Care was taken to place these tablets on one another, so that the reverse corresponded with its head; their misplacement would have produced some of those wrong reverses, of which the instances are not few on ancient coins.[4]

Placed on one another so as to form a roll or cylinder, they were luted together with soft clay, that closed all outlets. De Caylus speaks of a roll, consisting of eight tablets, and which was not a complete one. One is also mentioned in the History of the Academy of Inscriptions, which must be in the Cabinet de Médailles, at Paris, but the author, M. Mahudel, does not indicate the number of tablets.

M. Hennin, in his excellent "*Manuel de Numismatique*,"

of Soemias: at the same time, it is equally evident that the reverse of a mould, as inapplicable to the head of Soemias as the present one, might, by a wrong arrangement of the series, produce, what is popularly called, a blundered reverse,—*Editor N. C.*

[3] The French *ligne* is the twelfth part of an inch nearly.

[4] These coins with blundered or inapplicable reverses, were at one time numismatic puzzles, and led to much false reasoning. They so often occur at this period of the Roman empire, that the antiquary will do well to examine carefully all specimens, before he ventures on any speculations concerning them.—*Editor N. C.*

expresses his surprise that on the moulds which exhibit a head and reverse, the reverse does not correspond with the head; it would be more surprising if it were otherwise, and M. Hennin's usual penetration is here at fault. The tablet at the termination of each pile, having only either a head or a reverse, it is plain that the next in succession must have either the reverse or the head corresponding, and so on.

If each obverse had its corresponding reverse on the same mould, the whole pile must be a repetition of the same mould, to produce the intended impressions; but this is contrary to observation.

The piles, when duly arranged, were subjected to fire to receive the necessary hardness; and it only then remained to pour the melted metal into the channel formed by the small notch, cut on the edge of each mould. It is not known whether the moulds were broken in order to get out the pieces thus formed, or whether there was another process of extracting them: it is probable, however, that the moulds served more than once.[5] Lastly, the jet of metal attaching to each coin was carefully taken off.—De Caylus says, that he used one of these moulds, which he had properly cleaned, and obtained from it some well formed pieces.

Were these moulds used by forgers, or by the moneyers of the empire? This question has been made the subject of several dissertations; Caylus embraces the latter opinion, and endeavours to prove that the Romans must have equally used coinage and founding, for the formation of their gold and silver money.[6]

[5] This experiment which has been repeated by the Rev. J. B. Reade, and others, shews that the same pile of moulds might be used for several castings. *Ed. N. C.*

[6] We do not think there is any evidence to shew that the Romans ever cast their *gold* coins. *Ed. N. C.*

In support of this opinion, we must observe that it is precisely to the period when the quality of the money was singularly altered, that these moulds belong, so far at least, as they have hitherto been discovered.[7] On the other hand, it is incontestable, that much of the money of the reigns of Sept. Severus, and his successors is cast; for were their coins attributed to forgers, then, in this case, the quantity of bad money would, perhaps, have exceeded that of the good.[8]

M. Hennin, in his manual, does not pronounce a decided opinion; he supposes that the forgers may have been tacitly avowed by government. This opinion has something specious in it, but it is an unsupported conjecture. Grivaud de la Vincelle goes farther, and maintains that it must be the workmen of the Mint at Lyons, who carried on this clandestine mintage.

The latter, as well as Gerard Jacob Kolb, M. Champollion-Figeac, and Mangeart, think that these moulds belonged to forgers.

The first of these, whose opinion is much more decisive than that of the other two, endeavours also to prove, that this counterfeit issue must have taken place only under Alexander Severus.[9] But this point—of no great import-

[7] It is singular that among the moulds discovered at Lingwell Gate, was one of Antoninus Pius. It was presented to the Numismatic Society, by the Rev. J. B. Reade.—*Editor N. C.*

[8] It is remarkable that the plated forgeries of the times of the Cæsars are, in some instances, much more numerous than genuine coins; witness the denarii of Claudius, and those of Domitilla.—*Editor N. C.*

[9] The fact, that there are many ancient coins of Severus Alexander which appear to have been cast in moulds, is not sufficient to warrant such a conjecture. We are of opinion, that the practice of casting pieces of an inferior quality, was first resorted to either in the reign of S. Severus or Caracalla, of both of whom the specimens are the most numerous; though even this circumstance would not be conclusive: for it is not improbable, that an emperor, who resorted to such means of false coining, would use

ance to my present subject—does not appear sufficiently clear.

The opinion of these learned antiquaries does not seem to me sufficiently fortified with reasons; I think it well to endeavour, in a few words, to make up for their silence.

The strongest reason, in my opinion, for believing that these moulds must have been used by forgers, is, that it appears certain, that the dies which coiners used, were broken as soon as they were no longer wanted. A very small number of these dies have come down to us, and yet their number must have been immense, considering the extreme variety of the impressions on money.[10] Is it supposable, that they would have destroyed the metal dies, and preserved the earthen moulds, the destruction of which was far more easy?

I foresee an objection which will not fail to be raised; since we allow, it will be said, that the makers of money were able to make use of moulds, how happens it, if they were of metal, that not one has reached us? We conceive

the coins of his predecessors, upon whom the odium would fall in the event of their being detected by his subjects. Detection, however, was not an easy matter; the quality of the coins could only be ascertained by the *numularii* or money-changers, who, in their turn, would be puzzled to pronounce on the fineness of money, the quality and standard of which was, in all probability, never publicly announced by the Emperor. Complimentary legends on Roman coins must be regarded with caution; but we may mention, that Alexander Severus is styled, on some of his money, "*Restitutor Monetæ.*" *Ed. N. C.*

[10] There is reason to believe, that, in almost every instance, the dies were engraved punches, which yielded to every blow of the hammer; hence the very uncommon occurrence of two coins from the same die. When the punch thus used ceased to perform its office, the mutilated die was perhaps effaced, and another engraved upon the same piece of metal. Still, as M. Poey d' Avant suggests, the dies may have been destroyed by the Imperial command, in the presence of the Mint Master. *Ed. N. C.*

the discovery of one of these metal moulds would greatly simplify the question. The small number of dies that have been found, makes it not unlikely that there existed also metallic moulds; besides, it is very credible, that the destruction of these moulds must have been more particularly looked to, since the use of them would have been much more easy than that of dies; and the forgers, who swarmed at that period, would not have failed to use them, had they fallen into their hands.

These forgers profited by the reduction of the quality of silver, to carry on their criminal craft. This point seems to me evident; their profits became more certain, and their productions were so much the more easy to pass, the more difficult it was to distinguish them from genuine money.

Lyons, being the seat of a mint, the forgers would have established themselves there in preference: Aur. Victor relates that their number had increased to such a degree in Italy, that under Aurelian, they formed a body of sufficient importance openly to withstand this prince, and cause him in one encounter a loss of nearly 7000 regular troops.

I therefore maintain, that moulds of baked earth of Roman coins were used by forgers; but, in order to reconcile all opinions, I allow that these works were secretly authorised by the Emperors, who, involved in debt, in consequence of their luxury and debaucheries, considered all means good that tended to fill the coffers of the state; but this would not, however, explain why the moulds were not destroyed.

F. Poey d' Avant, de Melle.

No. 2.

ACCOUNT OF A MANUFACTORY FOR MONEY, DISCOVERED AT DAMERY IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MARNE, 1830.

THE examination of the question, whether the moulds for Roman money found near Lyons, had been used by forgers, or by the officers of government, an inquiry in which M. Poey d' Avant has lately been engaged, after the Academy of Inscriptions, and almost all the antiquaries of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, gives a new value to the discovery now under consideration; and in fact, though it may not decide the question, it at least throws a new light upon it.—

During the winter of 1829-1830, some excavations made in a very small part of the site of the park of the old castle of Damery, a town near Epernay, built on the ruins of Bibé, the first station on the military road from Rheims to Beauvais, brought to view, at the depth of several feet, under a heap of ashes, charcoal and broken tiles, the remains of extensive buildings demolished by fire, having evidently served for baths and a moneyer's workshop. In some adjoining apartments, there were found, in a short space of time, several vases full of coins.

The first vase contained at least 2000 pieces of base silver, more than 1500 of which bore the head of Postumus; the remainder presented the series which is generally found from the elder Philip down to that tyrant: the only rare piece was one of the younger Macrianus; the reverses, although very various for the coins of Postumus, were all common; lastly, the fabric was bad, and the metal much reduced: and those with the impression of Postumus were comparatively more defective than the others.

Another vase contained:—

1. A Silver coin of Antoninus.

2. Five small brass, of the money of Treves, with the types of Rome and Constantinople.

3. 100 other small brass, of the money of Treves, Lyons, Arles, Aquileia, Sisseg (P.S), and Rome; with the impressions of Constans and Constantius, sons of Constantine, and having for those three Emperors, the three same reverses, viz. FELIX · TEMP · REPARATIO; a warrior giving his hand to a small figure—same inscription, the Emperor standing on a galley—VICTORIAE · DD · AVGG · NN. Victories presenting crowns.

4. About 3900 pieces in small brass of the fourth size, all in perfect preservation, and all with the impressions of the same emperors, Constans and Constantius, and with the unusual reverse of a Phœnix on a globe, placed on a rock, with the inscription FELIX · TEMP · REPARATIO.

The greater part of these pieces bore on the exergue the mark of the money of Treves, several that of the money of Lyons, and one only bore the exergueal letters SIS, attributed in like manner to the money of Sisseg. The types were various.

Nevertheless, and in the face of these formal indications of manufacture in places far distant from one another, the identity of the alloy and of the impression of these 3900 coins was such, and their preservation so perfect and so equal, that the thought forces itself upon us, that they had been made in the same manufactory, and that they had never quitted it to be put into circulation. This supposition, justified also by the uniformity of the impressions, seems fully confirmed by the discovery in an adjoining apartment, of a money manufactory in full activity.

There, under a heap of ashes and tiles, were found together, shears, and the remains of other iron instruments, suitable for the making of money; and several collections

of moulds of baked earth, still containing the pieces which had been cast in them, and the ingot formed by the superfluous metal. (Plate fig. 2).

These moulds, not so thick, and of a coarser earth than those communicated by M. Poey d' Avant, were in other respects entirely similar.

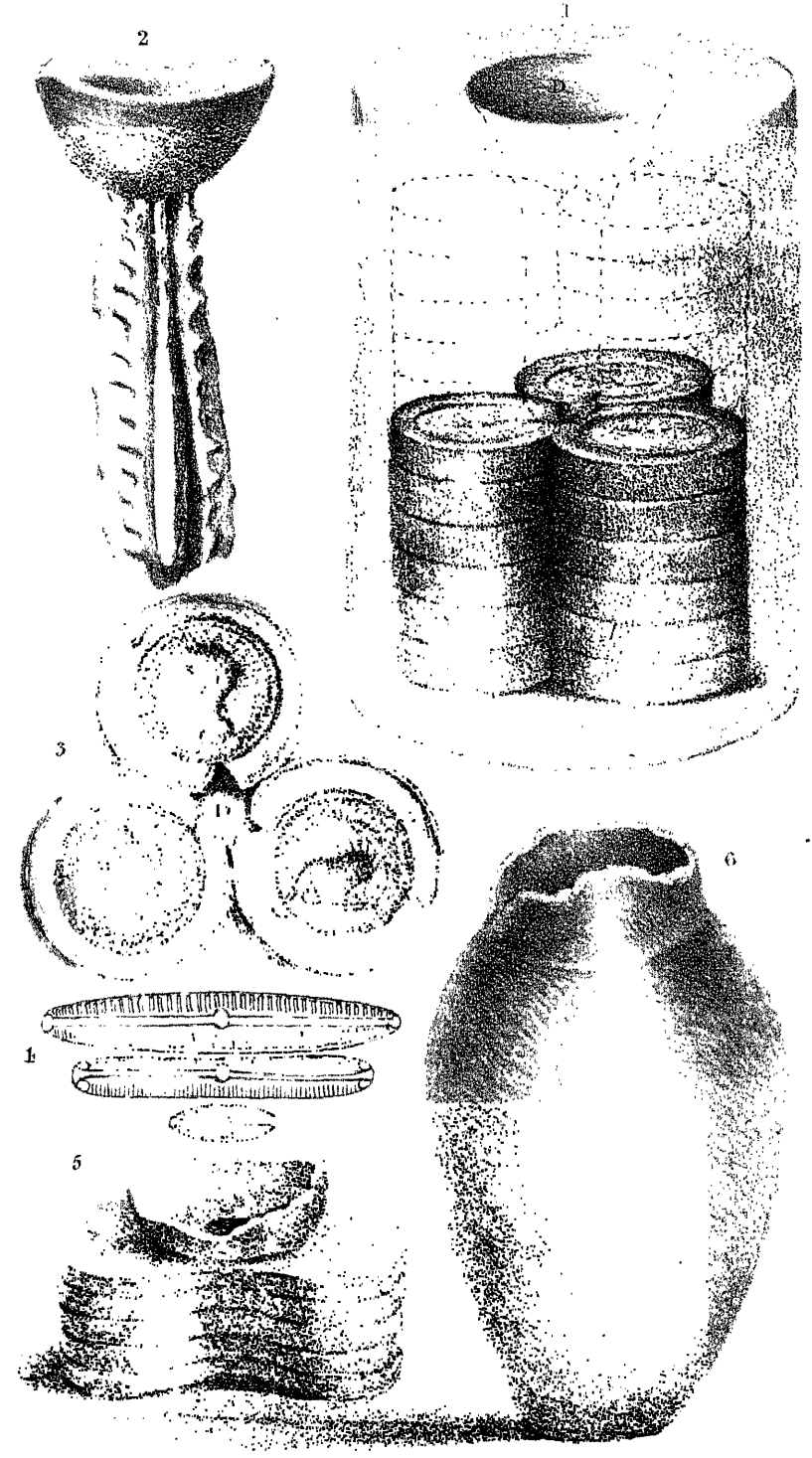
Like those found at Fourvieres, they were moulded from the money which they were intended to reproduce, by pressing the models between disks of worked clay of larger diameter, in order to form ledges, and were then placed one upon another, so that with the exception of the first and last, they received on each face the stamp of the obverse and the reverse of a piece.

The cavities and the impressions being obtained by this process both easily and accurately, the disks composing the moulds were notched, in order to form a passage for the fused metal; they were then hardened in the fire, replaced on one another, notch over notch, and in the same order as when moulded, and lastly, luted with clay, so as to form a cylinder similar to that found at Fourvieres, and described by M. de Caylus.

But the last operation that preceded the founding escaped the notice of that antiquary. The piles of moulds were combined in threes,[1] placed at the side of one another, and in contact, so that the notches, for the introduction of the metal, communicated with the hollow space formed by the three cylindrical surfaces when applied to one another; which space, therefore, served as a general channel for the melted matter. Such was the disposition of the groups of moulds found in the ruins of Bibé. (Pl. fig. 1).

The ingot drawn in illustration of these observations, is

[1] It will be observed that a double and not a triple pile was used at Lingwell Gate, as appears from the drawing (fig. 5), which I have received from the Rev. S. Sharp, of Wakefield. *Ed.N.C.*



Lens Aldous, lith.

1 Group of Moulds arranged for Casting 2 Mass of metal filling channel D. 3 Ground plan of moulds, cases &c Longwell Gate. 4 Vertical section of the same of the moulds, cases, pole &c moulds with finial attached & Cracked Canal in ground Gate.

one of those formed by the superabundant metal in the channel. It is bristled with three longitudinal lines of 12 points each, more or less prominent, these points being the remains of the ramification of metal that entered by the notches of the 12 moulds, in each of the three piles constituting the group, and thus 36 pieces were cast at once. These observations, M. de Caylus was not enabled to make.

There is no doubt but these moulds, as well as those much more perfect, found at Fourvieres, were used for more than one casting; with a little care, the pieces were taken out without breaking the moulds; and M. de Caylus made an experiment on the latter, which even some of those found in the ruins of Bibé might bear, although they had undergone, at the time of the conflagration of this Roman establishment, the action of the most violent fire.

The moulds found at various times at Fourvieres, were of the types of Septimius Severus, Julia Domna, Caracalla, Geta, Soemias, Mæsa, and Alexander Severus.

Only 32 moulds were found uninjured in the ruins of the work at Bibé, and these are scarcely the tenth part of the whole. Three bear the head of Caracalla, four, that of the elder Philip, and twenty-five that of Postumus with nine varieties of reverses.

The following is the description in detail, of the impressions on the moulds preserved in the cabinets of M. Lucas Desaint, of Rheims, and M. Thiers, with the number of duplicates.

Caracalla; ANTONINVS · PIVS · AVG · GERM; crowned head, (*large size*).

Rev.—VENUS · VICTRIX; Venus Victrix, standing, having a figure of Victory on her right hand, and the hasta transversely in her left; her elbow leaning on a buckler.

Rev.—SECVRITAS · PERPETVA; Minerva standing.

Rev.—CARITAS · MVTVA · AVGG ; two heads joined.

PHILIP THE ELDER; IMP · PHILIPPVS · AVGG. *Rev.*—ÆTERNITAS · AVGG. A figure on an elephant.

Rev.—SÆCVLVM · NOVVM ; Jupiter in a temple.

Rev.—FIDES · EXERCITVS ; four military standards.

Rev.—SÆCVLARES · AVGG ; Hippopotamus.

POSTUMUS ; IMP · C · POSTVMVS · P · F · AVG. *Rev.*—FELICITAS · AVG. A woman standing, her right hand on a long caduceus, and holding in her left a cornucopia. (4 *dupl.*)

Rev.—MONETA · AVG ; woman standing. (2 *dupl.*)

Rev.—LÆTITIA · AVG ; galley. (2 *dupl.*)

Rev.—SAECVLI · FELICITAS ; the emperor in military costume, holding a globe, and the hasta transversely. (7 *dupl.*)

Rev.—FIDES · EXERCIT ; two ensigns. (3 *dupl.*)

Rev.—HERCVLI · DEVSONIENSI ; Hercules standing, leaning on his club. (3 *dupl.*)

Rev.—HERCVLI · PACIFERO ; Hercules standing, holding a branch.

Rev.—NEPTVNO · COMITI ; Neptune standing.

Rev.—DIANA · LVCIFERA ; Diana.

Rev.—without impression.

We may suppose that the broken or dispersed moulds reproduced the different impressions of the silver pieces found in great numbers in the apartments adjoining the workshop, pieces which must in great measure have proceeded from the active casting that was going on. This supposition seems especially to hold for the 1500 silver pieces of Postumus, in which the bad alloy and defective make were particularly remarkable.

With respect to the 3900 small brass, with the reverse of the phœnix, it is maintained, that they were struck in the manufactory of Bibé, although bearing the marks of the money of Trèves and Lyons. And indeed it is conceived, that in those times of confusion, the money of the emperors must have followed their camps, and been continually within

reach of their residence. The simultaneous discovery under the same ruins of these small brass coins, with the effigies of Constans and Constantius, and of moulds still enclosing the money of Caracalla, Philip, and Postumus, which had been cast in them, proves besides this very important fact, that the latter had been made *under the reign of those two first emperors only*.

Independently of these considerable stores, there have been frequently found at Damery, isolated pieces; but none of those submitted to my inspection was after the reign of the sons of Constantine, the period to which we must assign the total ruin of Bibé by the Franks, who then were making incursions into Belgic Gaul.

The following conclusions result from these discoveries, discoveries which we have endeavoured minutely to describe, and which are of more importance to the critic than those of Fourvieres:—

That if, according to the testimony of Pliny, forgers were the first to adopt the method of casting, to counterfeit ancient money, the emperors from the time of Postumus availed themselves of this process to reproduce secretly, and in metal of bad alloy, the money of their predecessors.

That it is to these reproductions (clandestine) we must attribute the enormous quantity of silver money, of inferior quality and defective make, with the impressions of the Cæsars, from the time of Septimius Severus, down to Postumus.

Lastly, they explain the total want of silver money, from Victorinus to Dioclesian, and the great rarity of that of the lower empire.

In fact, it results, from these discoveries, that under the reigns of the Cæsars, Constans, and Constantius, there were cast, in a mint established at Bibé, large quantities of money, with the stamp of the emperors who had reigned

from Caracalla to Postumus, and that this manufactory, situated in the heart of a town, and near public baths, did not belong to forgers, but was for the imperial money, in which copper money was struck with the die of the reigning emperors, and the silver money of the ancient Cæsars, still more adulterated than the original pieces, was reproduced by founding.

Hence, the possibility that the reigning emperor did not strike silver money with his die, nor maintain faithfully the quality of the small quantity which he issued; since at the same time that he threw into circulation the quantity of specie necessary for civil and commercial transactions, by means of ancient money secretly reproduced he diminished its intrinsic value.

It was besides evident that the small number of silver pieces struck with the die of the Cæsars, from the time of Dioclesian down to the destruction of the Western Empire, could not satisfy the wants of the public; and that even in those disastrous times, the money of the former Cæsars had continued current during that period, but, disappearing in the continual concealments that took place in consequence of war and endless ravages, the emperors, to their great profit, clandestinely reproduced it, instead of multiplying specie of good standard, struck with their own die.

We conceive, then, that having the choice, they reproduced in preference money, the quality of which had been reduced previously; and thus all the moulds discovered, bear the head of Septimius Severus who had altered the money first, and of his successors down to Postumus, who had all followed his example; for though it is easy to discover, by mere inspection, whether the silver of any money be pure or not, it is impossible to judge, by this means, of the quantity of adulteration.

It had long been remarked, that there was a great

inequality in the degree of alteration (or reduction) of the money struck at the same time, and with the mark of the same emperor. We cannot now doubt that such differences are the consequence of these fraudulent reproductions.

And thus, if the emperors punished the alteration of the money as a sacrilege, it was certainly with the view of securing to themselves the monopoly of this shameful source of profit. HIVER.

No. 3.

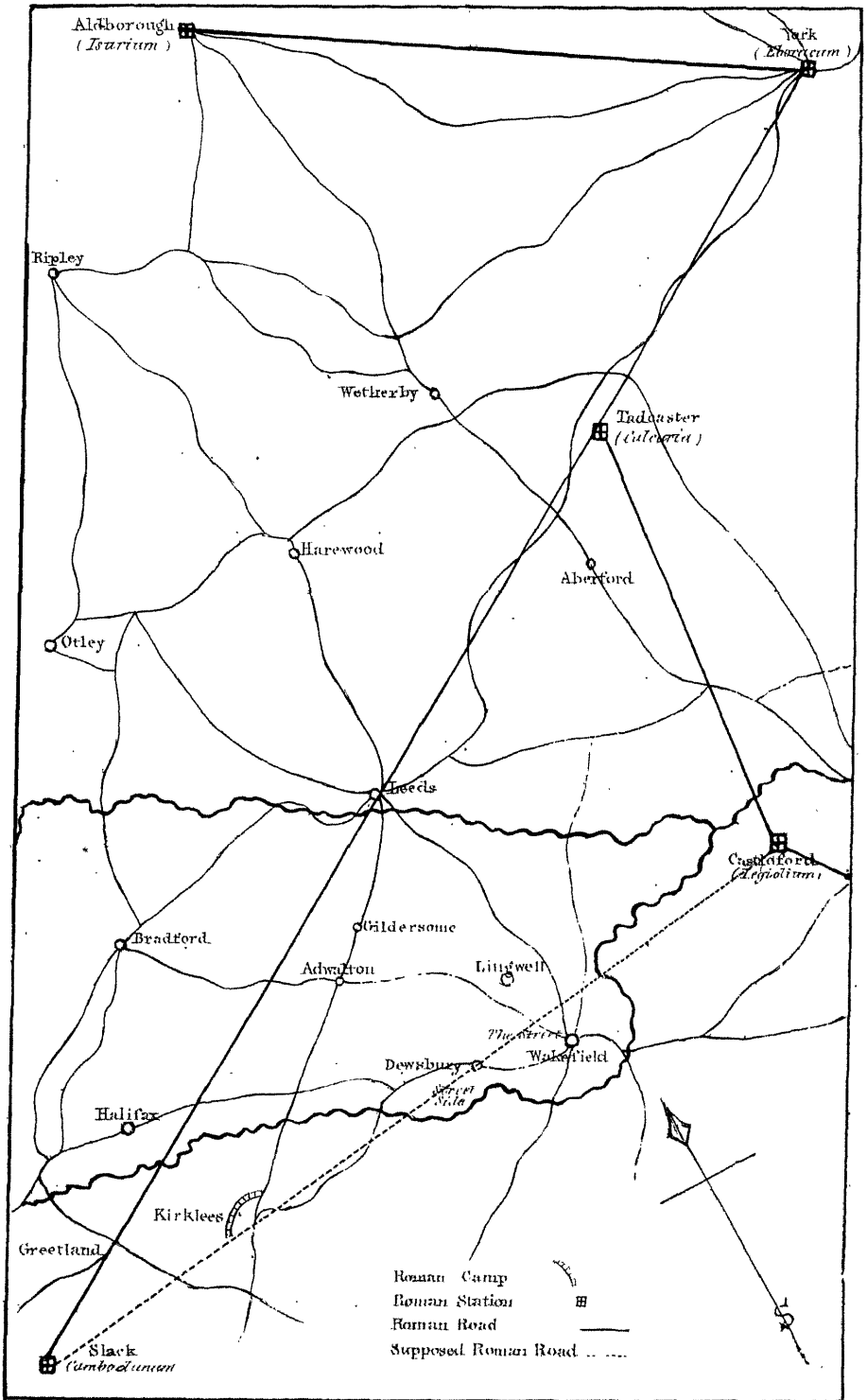
OBSERVATIONS ON THE ROMAN COIN-MOULDS FOUND AT LINGWELL-GATE, NEAR WAKEFIELD, IN THE YEARS 1697, 1706, 1820, and 1830. By the Rev. J. B. READE, M A., F. R. S.

IT was my design, in a former paper,[1] to state, in few words, the present position of the question which has been raised, as to the origin and use of Roman Coin-moulds, and also to suggest an expedient for its solution. As regards the formation of the moulds, it is supposed either that they were sent from Rome,—or that they were made of sand which had been brought to the place where they are found,—or that they were made of the sand and clay of the spot; and each of these opinions has able advocates. As regards the metallic currency which these moulds were designed to furnish, it is supposed that it either proceeded wholly from the clandestine operation of forgers,—or that the authorities countenanced this illicit extension of public money, and availed themselves of the supply,—or, that under the express sanction of the senate, the colonial soldiers were hereby provided with lawful coin of the realm. Here also, as

[1] Numismatic Journal, Vol. II. p. 58.

before, we might support these different views by important documents which have been laid before learned societies. When, however, such and so many conflicting statements are brought before us, it immediately strikes us, notwithstanding the allowed skill of the debaters, that they cannot all be true; while, at the same time, the ability with which such different positions are maintained, renders it very difficult to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion. Under these circumstances, an appeal to facts appears to be our only resource.

With regard then to the origin of these moulds, the means by which I propose to prove generally, that they were made on or near the spot where they are from time to time discovered, has especial reference to the extensive and interesting series which has been found at Lingwell-Gate. In the course of an inquiry into the solid materials which constitute the ashes of plants, and of which silica is a very important one, I observed that the minute and beautiful organization which this substance exhibits, is not easily disturbed by pressure, in consequence of its extreme minuteness, while, from the very nature of the material, it is necessarily indestructible by heat. Hence, under the expectation of finding other traces of siliceous structure, I was led to the examination of silica as it enters into the different strata which form the crust of the earth; and thus the siliceous particles constituting the chief mass of Roman coin moulds was subjected to microscopic examination. Passing by many observations, which would readily present themselves on the nature of this mode of investigation, I proceed to state, that the discovery of more than one species of well known *Fossil Infusoria*, of the genus *Navicula*, in the sand of some of the coin moulds, seemed to point out a new, but, apparently effectual expedient,



Lens Aldous, lith.

Part of the west Riding of Yorkshire illustrating the Rev^d J. B. Reade's paper on the Coin Mounds found at Lingwell Gate.

for enabling us, without much risk of error, to assign the moulds in question to their proper locality. For, should it appear upon subsequent examination, that the common soil, or sand of the field in which the moulds were found, is characterised by siliceous shields of similar infusoria, then it would be the most natural and obvious conclusion, that the Roman coin-moulds turned up by the plough at Lingwell-Gate, were made on the spot, and of the soil where they were found. A recent journey to Yorkshire gave me an opportunity of investigating, and of verifying this curious speculation; and I can now state that the sand of the field, which I have carefully examined, is marked by the presence of the infusoria of the coin-moulds. The general form of these animalcules is elliptical, having a major axis of about the $\frac{1}{100}$ of an inch, and the length of the major and minor axis, in the proportion of nearly 6 to 1: there are also about 100 minute stripes at right angles to two parallel and central longitudinal lines; and at each extremity, and in the middle of these lines, there is a small circular orifice. It appears, from a memoir by Professor Ehrenberg, that these infusoria are widely diffused; and when they occur in masses, or layers, the aggregation receives the name of *tripoli*, and is largely used for purposes of practical utility; for, as Professor Ehrenberg remarks—"The soldier cleans his arms with tripoli, the worker in metal, the locksmith, and the engraver, polish with infusoria, which also *serve for moulds* in foundries." For this latter purpose, we shall not be disposed to doubt that they were used at Lingwell-Gate.

The second main point in this inquiry, presents greater difficulty than the first. But here also, no small advantage may be gained, by a comparison of the different local circumstances which are connected with the most recent

discoveries of these moulds in this country and on the continent: I allude to the discoveries at Lingwell-Gate, in the county of York, and at Damery in the department of Marne. Of the discovery at the latter place, a very elaborate account has been furnished by M. Hiver, Procureur du Roi à Orleans, in the Revue de la Numismatique Française, No. 3, Mai et Juin. But as a translation of this memoir is inserted in the present number of the Numismatic Chronicle, it will suffice to state that the facts detailed and established by M. Hiver, necessarily lead us to the following important conclusion :—viz. that under the reigns of the Cæsars, Constans, and Constantius, and immediately prior to the ruin of Bibé by the Franks, who were then making incursions into Belgic Gaul, there were cast, by means of moulds, in a mint established at Bibé, large quantities of money, with the type of the emperors who had reigned from Caracalla to Postumus; and, that this manufactory, situated in the heart of a town, and adjoining the public baths, did not belong to forgers, but was for the imperial money; in which copper money was struck with the die of the reigning emperors, and the silver money of the ancient Cæsars was reproduced, not in copper, but in base silver from the moulds.

If now we refer to the very different circumstances which are connected with the discovery at Lingwell-Gate, we shall find that the clandestine operation of forgers stands in striking contrast with the recognised and open proceedings of the constituted authorities at Bibé. Concealment here takes the place of publicity; and the selected spot is no longer in the centre of a town, but in the heart of a forest; and at a distance from the main road, instead of near public baths. The money, also, now produced, and which, in some instances, is still remaining in the

moulds, was not of largely alloyed silver, as at Bibé, but of copper; and since, at this period of the empire, mere copper denarii would be worse than useless, there can be no doubt that the skill of the forgers would supply a coating of silver, before putting them into circulation.

On the whole, therefore, it seems to amount almost to a certainty, that the moulds were made on, or near, the spot, where they are from time to time discovered, and that they were used in common by forgers, and by the Triumviri Monetales; by the former at Lingwell-Gate, for the purpose of procuring a private supply of counterfeit money; and by the latter at Bibé, for the purpose of filling the exhausted coffers of the state with a debased coinage of the ancient Cæsars. Thus, in each case it is evident, that in those degenerate days both kings and subjects acted out, in practice, what in the Augustan age was confined to words,

> "O cives, cives, quærenda pecunia primum est,
> Virtus post nummos."—*Hor.*

BLONDEAU'S PROPOSAL FOR REFORMING THE COINAGE OF ENGLAND.

[Read before the Numismatic Society 22nd November, 1838.]

Chelsea, September 25th, 1838.

My Dear Sir,

Having had occasion lately to look into the library of the British Museum for notices respecting Thomas Simon, the celebrated engraver of Coins and Medals about the middle of the seventeenth century, I was surprised to find a printed paper on a loose sheet, without date, but bearing that of 1650 *written* at the bottom of the page, to which the name of Simon is attached also in MS., although the paper itself is evidently the production of a foreigner;

whereas I had always understood that Evelyn's assertion was correct, that Simon was born in Yorkshire.

On a perusal of the document, which is an address from the writer to the Parliament of the Commonwealth of England, there can be no doubt that it must be ascribed to Peter Blondeau, a French engineer, who came over to England about that time, for the purpose of prevailing upon the council of state to accept of some new improvements, which he had introduced into the practice of coining money, for the use of the British Mint. The paper recites the countenance he received at first from the committee of the mint, and the difficulties he afterwards experienced from the master and officers of that establishment.

The supposition that this paper [A], a copy of which I beg leave to enclose to you for the Numismatic Society, was really written, or at least addressed, by Peter Blondeau to the Parliament, is fully established by another paper [B], also in the British Museum, in which his name occurs evidently relating to the same subject, and which seems to have been addressed to the Parliament a few years after. In this, Blondeau enlarges upon the difficulties placed in his way, the motive of those obstacles, and upon the advantages which would accrue, both to the mint and to the public, if the Parliament would enforce the adoption of his new process: this process being simply the substitution of the mill and screw, for the hammer to strike the coin. This machinery was not, however, finally provided for the mint, as stated by Folkes in the introduction to his "Table of English Coins," till the year 1662.

These two documents together present several curious circumstances respecting the state of the British Mint, and the coinage issued from it at this period: and as they seem to have escaped the notice of the learned writers on the

subject—at least, I do not find them attended to by Folkes, although he mentions generally the fact to which they relate,—I have thought that perhaps you would not consider them undeserving of being brought under the notice of the society, as illustrative of the history of our coinage.

Ever, my dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

W. R. HAMILTON.

Dr. G. Lee, Pres. Num. Soc.
Doctors' Commons.

[A]

Extracted from a Folio in the British Museum, marked Miscellaneous Sheets, 164—50, *from November* 27, *to February* 28; *gift of George* III.

TO THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF ENGLAND.

THE assurance that I have, that all your honours' cares and labours have no other aime, than the removing of all disorders, the relieving of the people, and increasing more and more the happinesse within, and the reputation abroad, of this commonwealth, hath emboldened me to put your honours in mind, that the coyne when it is ill done doth cause many disorders in a state, giving way to the counterfeiting and clipping of it, which occasioneth the death of several persons; besides the transporting of the heaviest pieces out of the land, to the great hinderance of the commerce, and the great losse and incommodity of the poor people, which is worthy to be taken into consideration, and to be pitied.

For the remedy of such a disorder, the honourable councell of state had prudently resolved to have the money well coyned, if they could but meet with an excellent workman to have the conduct of that work. A year since, I had

notice of it, whereupon I sent hither some patterns of coyn, which were esteemed and approved of by the said honourable councell of state, which occasioned my comming into England; where being arrived, I was very courteously entertained by the said honourable councell, who then doubted not but that Doctor Gourdon, Master of the Mint, would be inclinable to a thing so much conducing to the good and relief of the people: but it fell out otherwise; for having applied myself several times unto the said Doctor, he told me plainly, that if I was come to be an officer of the mint, they were already too many, and that the workmen were more than they had need for the coyning of their moneys, which they would do so well, that the state would be satisfied; and accordingly he did promise it unto the state.

A while after, the said workmen coyned some money, the said Doctor exhorting them to doe it well, and indeed they used their best skill; yet it did cost dear unto the state, by reason of the stamps they spoyled: and was so ill-favouredly done, that it displeased both the people, and those that had any skill therein.

The honourable councell of state did since give an order, the 3rd of February last, that the coyne should be better made, and that the honourable committee of the mint should hearken unto my proposition; which is, by a new invention of mine, to make a handsomer coyne, than it can be found in all the world besides, viz. that shall not only be stamped on both flat sides, but shall even be marked with letters upon the thicknesse of the brim, whereby the counterfeiting, casting, and clipping of the coyne shall be prevented. This way is much approved of, and desired by all knowing, curious, and understanding men, both in the parliaments, and in the honourable councell of state; and even by most men of all sorts and conditions, who have

seen my patterns, and doe understand the utility, profit, and reputation this commonwealth will get by it. But the said Doctor and the workmen of the mint, not willing to understand the dammage they cause unto the poor people, and to the state also, and for their own and private interest, have so crossed this businesse, that no resolution hath yet been taken to procure so much good unto the state and the publick.

The said Doctor hath told me himself in plain tearms, that he would doe his utmost to hinder my proposition; and for that end he hath brought in an Irish lock-smith, one David Rammage, a man ill-affected to the present government, who hath been servant formerly (to) the late deceased Master Briot, for whom he forged his tools, and marked his brasse counters; which Rammage made a proof of a very big brasse piece very ill-favouredly done, which was marked upon the thicknesse of the brim, after the old way; which is very tedious, and cannot be done upon thin ordinary pieces, as I may doe by my new invention.

Farther to hinder that the said invention of mine should be made use of, the said Doctor hath given out, that it was a thing so easie to be found out, that the workmen of the mint, and any other could counterfeit the same; and therefore, that it was as good to coyne the money of this commonwealth as it is coyned now in France; and that he might undertake it, he caused the said Irish smith to be associated with the workmen of the mint, saying he would doe it as well, and cheaper than any body else. The money coyned that way, can be cast and clipped; yet the Honourable Sir James Harrington desiring to know their price, he did bid them draw a proposition of the lowest price they would have for (it), which they did, putting it very low, with no other design than thereby to discourage

bold, yet with submission, to present the following particulars, containing, besides the said offers; First, the reason why the coyn of this commonwealth is clipped and light, so that few pieces are to bee found weighing their true weight. As also the reason why so much false coyn is now dispersed. And secondly, the onely way to remedie the said inconveniences, and to settle a good and constant order in the mint.

As to the first, the reason of the said abuse is, because the monie coyned with the hammer is so easie to be counterfeited, and with so few engines and so little expences, that thereby the false coyners are encouraged, and their number encreased. And the dailie experience to this day shewed, that seldom or never any false coyners have been discovered by the noise of the hammer.

Another reason is, because the monie coyned with the hammer cannot be made exactly round, nor equal in weight and bigness, and is often grossly marked, and hath many other faults, which gives a great facility to the false coyners to counterfeit and mould it; it being very hard to discern between a clipped piece, and one not clipped. Besides, abundance of coyne is made too light, even at the mint: the said Blondeau himself has received some shillings—which he showed to the committee for the mint—which weighed some five, some six, and some seven-pence only; as to the contrarie, he received some that weighed seventeen, yea, and eighteen-pence, both of them made so at the mint; which inequalitie occasions several goldsmiths and others, who receive the monie from the mint, to cull or pick out the heaviest pieces to melt them; and after them, others do again cull or pick out the heaviest of them that are left, to transport them beyond seas; so that onely the light, the false, and the clipped monie remains within the

state, which turns to the great ruin and destruction of commerce, and undoeth those poor people, who spend their monie little by little; for having some counterfeited or clipped pieces, they cannot put them off, but are forced to sell them with loss, unto the goldsmiths and others, who can spend them among other monies, or trade therein, and sell them again to the cash-keepers of the treasurers, bankers, merchants and others, who make them pass afterwards among other monies, so that they return again into the hands of the poor.

The reason why the workmen of the mint do make the coyn thus unequal in weight, and do not care to keep the true weights is, because it is sooner done. Besides, the said workmen may coyn sometimes their own silver, or may treat with those that bring their bullion to be coyned, because they do not render the coyne by tale, but by the pound, and so still there be more pieces in number, than there should be in a pound. And the monie so coyned, being distributed out of the mint, the officers themselves and the workmen of the mint, do cull or pick out the heaviest pieces to melt them again, as they themselves have confessed before the said committee for the mint. And that is the thing which, among themselves, they call the mysterie or secret of the mint, and which is the cause that by themselves and by their friends, they make use of all their joint power and credit, and will lay out all their estate, and leave no stone unmoved, to hinder the changing of the waie of coyning the monie.

As to the waie of remedying these inconveniences, and settling a good and constant order in the mint, it cannot be done, but by the waie propounded by the said Blondeau, by marking the coyn not onely on both the flat sides, but also upon the thickness or the edges. The coyn made

after that waie, cannot be clipped without taking away the marks that are about the thickness, the which would bee easily perceived. Besides, the pieces will bee of an equal thickness and largeness; the half-crown of the ordinarie weight and bigness; the shilling and other pieces accordingly, and so equal among themselves, that it will be impossible to take the less (least) thing from anie of them, but it will shew less than the rest, and so will become not current; they cannot be altered by washing or any other waie, but they will lose their bignesse and glass (gloss), so that a blind man will easily feel it.

The ordinarie coyn marked onely on both the flat sides [can be*] moulded, as the experience do shew by the great quantity of false coyn moulded, which is current now; but when it is marked on the thickness or edges, the marks across the said edges can no way be moulded; and though they could, yet in that case they ought to be filed after round about, specially in the place where it hath been cast, to take away the superfluous metal; which filing cannot be done without spoiling and taking away the said marks about the edges; and consequently made easily known not to be current.

The monie ought to be adjusted piece after piece, equal in weight, both gold and silver: and for that end, it is requisite that an officer bee appointed in the mint, whose charge should bee, to weigh the monie, piece after piece, when it is finished; and in case he finds any piece unequal, or unhandsomely made, hee ought to reject it, and give it to be melted again, upon the charges of the undertaker of the mint, thereby to oblige him to bee so much the more careful: and for to hinder the connivance of the

* The words inserted between brackets, are inserted conjecturally, the original in these places being defaced.

weigher appointed to weigh the said pieces, who might happen to juggle with the undertaker, another officer may bee appointed, to whom any of the people that shall find any of the new coined pieces lighter than it should bee, might repair within a convenient time, who shall change the said light pieces, all which shall bee put to the account of the said officer appointed for the weighing: but that cannot bee done, except the monie bee coyned after the said Peter Blondeau's waie; that is, marked on both sides, and upon the edges; else the weigher might pretend it had been clipped and made light since it went out of his hand. And the monie being coyned after the said waie, besides hindering or removing of the aforesaid inconveniences, it will raise or encrease the exchange by about ten per centum, to the advantage of this commonwealth.

It is also requisite to mention the standard, or goodness of the coyn, that any goldsmith, or refiner, or other whomsoever bee permitted to make essay of the current monie; and in case it bee not found of the standard, or goodness, they might be allowed to bring back to an appointed officer, the essay, and the rest of the pieces by them tried, to bee then tried again before the commissioners, and the trier of the mint; and if it bee found that the said coyn bee not of the true goodness, the discoverer shall be rewarded at the charges of the trier, that hee may have a due care, that no coyn comes out of the mint, but such as shall bee of a due value, and according to the order of the state.

The council of state, being willing to prevent the said disorders, was desirous to have the monie of the Commonwealth well coyned; and therefore having seen the patterns of coyns made after a new invention by the said Blondeau, and having treated by letters about the quantity of pieces that could be coyned in a week, and what they would cost, the

said council caused the said Blondeau, the inventor of that waie of coining, to come to London, to treat with him by word of mouth, and to agree about the price of coyning the monie of this Commonwealth after his way. He being then arrived at London, the . . . of September 1649, the said council bestowed on him £40 sterling, and the late Mr. Frost, then secretarie to the said council, told him, before witnesses, that the state could not agree with him about the price; and that therefore he should be necessitated to retire himself, the state would indemnify him for his journey, both coming and returning, and for the time hee should have lost, and would bestow on him such a present, that hee would return satisfied. A while after, the said council of state ordered the committee of the council of state for the mint, to hear the said Blondeau's proposition, and report it to the said council.

The committee for the mint accordingly took into consideration, whether the said Blondeau should bee admitted to coyn the monie of this commonwealth; and having debated it, they resolved and approved that he should be admitted thereunto, provided his coyn and his proposition bee advantagious to the state.

Afterwards the said committee, having seriously considered and examined all the circumstances [regarding the] waie of coyning propounded by the said Blondeau, and having heard all the objections that could bee [made] against it, both by the master, officers, and workmen of the mint, or by any other of those who appeared in the business; upon debate of the whole, the said committee concluded and voted, that the said waie of coyning propounded by the said Blondeau was better, more advantagious, and more honourable for the state, than that which is now used in this Commonwealth.

The master, the officers, and the workmen of the mint, told the committee, it was not likely the said Blondeau had done, himself, the pieces sent by him to the council of state. Besides, that it was an old invention, which they knew themselves, and that such pieces were onely made for curiosity, with very long time and great expence, and that it was impossible that that waie might be used about the ordinarie coyn, which is thin. They desired, that the said Blondeau might be commanded to make a trial of his skill for making some other pieces, and that they would do as much as the said Blondeau. Therefore the said commonwealth ordered both the said Blondeau, and the said workmen, to make their patterns and propositions respectively; and that hee that would make it with the most advantage to the state, should have the imployment.

At the time appointed, the workmen brought to the committee some pieces made after the old waie, which is known to them, and some big pieces of silver, stuffed within with copper; but they had drawn no propositions.

Likewise the said Blondeau brought in about 300 pieces, some half-crowns of the ordinarie weight and bigness, some shillings, sixpences, and some gold pieces, and presented his proposition, which having been reformed according to the pleasure of the said committee, it was received and accepted by the whole committee, who ordered it to be reported to the council of state, according to the order of the said council.

The said committee having then taken into consideration the big pieces of silver at the outside, and stuffed within with copper, made with the engins that are at the Tower, and well understood that the said pieces, because they are made of several pieces at the top, one of [which] will give no sound, so that a blinde man can easily discern it to be false;

and having weighed the long time and great cost required for coyning of each piece, because they [are] made of 4 pieces, namely, one of copper, and one of silver at the top, another underneath, and one about, the which ought to be adjusted and soldered together, besides several other fashions, which cost more than the price of the lawful pieces; having also considered the great and heavie engins, and great number of tools and of men required for making of those counterfeited pieces, they acknowledged that it would be enough to dissuade any from undertaking it; the rich not being willing, and the poor being unable; and that though they should undertake it, they could not do it without being discovered. Besides, that the monie coyned after the waie of the said Blondeau, was so thin, that it cannot be so counterfeited.

Whereupon it [was thought] reasonable, that the said workmen of [the mint,] although they made use of the great and heavie engins that are in the Tower, yet for making of some tools they were in need of, and for the other charges of coyning about a dozen of pieces, have spent £100, as hee that pretends to have laid out the monie hath said before witnesses.

Afterwards, another order was given by the said committee, and some time limited to the said workmen, to draw and present their proposition for coyning of the monie, marked upon the thickness or edge, as that of the said Blondeau is. But after the expiration of the long time demanded by them, they brought such a proposition, that the said committee having read it over and over, could not understand it, nor the sense of it; and even those that brought it could not explain it; whereby it was apparent to the said committee, that they were not able to make their proposition good, much less to make the money after that

waie which they avowed themselves before the committee. Yet they intreated the committee to allow them the time of months more, to find, if possible, the new invention, and that the said Blondeau's proposition should be communicated unto them; upon which they might frame their own. They farther demanded that the said Blondeau, and the graver, should have orders to bring in all the pieces made by the said Blondeau for a trial, with the stamps or dies used for making of them: all which was granted them, upon that condition, that if, within the time allowed them, they could finde out the means to coyne the monie after the said Blondeau's way, and that thereupon hee should be sent back, hee should be indemnified, which was agreed by all. But they could never find out the said new invention for coyning the thin and neat pieces after that way, with the expedition requisite. Yet for all that, they made their propositions, which are in the hands of the chairman of the committee, as are also the said Blondeau's propositions, which [were kept by them] a year and a half.

The workmen [would that the committee should be] given to understand, [that there were 200] poor families, which are maintained by the work of the mint, [contrary to the] truth. For some officers of the mint have told before witnesses, that formerly their corporation was, at the most, of 40 masters; and that at this time there are hardly 30 masters, who are all rich, have lands or houses, and other waies of maintenance, without the work of the mint. And that when they had much monie to coyn, they were wonted to hire some journiemen, giving to some 18 pence, to some 15, and to some 12, for half a daie's work. Besides, in case the state admits of the said Blondeau to coyn the monie after his waie, and the workmen bee willing to work after the said waie, hee will oblige himself to teach them, and paie them a reasonable price.

The said Blondeau doth not intend to have the gold, nor the silver in his custody, but only the charge of working the same, by such persons as the state shall be pleased to [appoint] thereunto.

He shall not have the power to admit any one to the works of the mint, without the consent and approbation of the state.

Nor will he [require the] keeping of the dies; or they shall be intrusted in the hands of such as the state shall admit to work.

In a word, he doth generally submit to whatever the state shall think reasonable, only he prays to consider that—

1. The exact equalitie that will bee effected by this waie, and invention of the said Blondeau, will hinder and avoid all the known corrupt practices about coyning.

2. The charge of the state concerning the same, considering all circumstances, will be less than in the old waie; and the honour of this commonwealth much the greater, in having their monies coyned in perfection, above, or beyond, any other state now known.

3. The said Blondeau came to London about three years and a half since, and hath no other imployment here, but to attend the pleasure of the state.

XVIII.

LETTER FROM Dr. GROTEFEND.

Hochgeehrter Herr!

Ich benütze die erfreuliche Anwesenheit des berühmten Baronet John Herschel, um Ihnen für den kürzlich erhaltenen Aufsatz in den Proceedings of the Numismatic Society, meinen schuldigen Dank zu sagen. Ob mir gleich schon dessen Inhalt durch den frühern Auszug aus denselben bekannt war, so hat doch der Aufsatz in der Vollendung, welche Sie ihm gaben, ein weit größeres Interesse für mich. Ihre Bemerkungen über den Gebrauch der Goldringe statt des Geldes, haben mich so sehr angezogen, daß ich Sir William Bethams sinnreiche Entdeckung in Betreff der Goldringe und Goldketten zu einem besondern Studium meiner Muße machen werde. Meine deßhalb angestellten Untersuchungen sind noch im ersten Beginnen; aber so viel geht mir daraus schon zur Genüge hervor, daß der griechische Metaphrast von Cäsars gallischem Kriege (v. 12) die richtige Lesart vor sich hatte: "Utuntur (Britanni) aut nummo æreo, aut anulis ferreis ad certum pondus examinatis pro nummo." Zu derselben Zeit als Cäsar in Britannien, wo man nur eine geringe Menge Eisen außer dem Zinn des Innern an der Seeküste gewann, und Kupfer vom Auslande erhielt, die eisernen Ringe statt des Geldes im Gebrauche fand, waren die Goldringe im innern Asien üblich, wenn man annehmen darf, daß die Goldringe und Muscheln, welche man in den indischen Topen neben den Münzen der verschiedensten Art gefunden hat, ebenfalls Münzenstelle in jenen Gegenden vertraten. Fragen wir nach dem Ursprunge dieses Gebrauches, so möchten Sie wohl im Hiob (xcii. 11.) die älteste Spur desselben gefunden haben, wo der goldene Ring der Kesita zugegeben wird, um deren hundert Jacob (Gen. xxxi. 19.) noch einen Acker in Canaan kaufte. Zu Isaaks Zeit (Gen. xxiv. 22 & 47) war der Goldring noch ein weiblicher Nasenschmuck oder auch ein Ohrring (Gen. xxxv. 4.), und nichts anderes scheinen die goldenen Ringe der Ismaeliten zu Gideons Zeit (Judic. viii. 24) gewesen zu seyn. Zu Homers Zeit aber reiheten die Phöniken dergleichen Ringe von Gold und anderem glänzenden Metalle zu Halsketten und Armbändern, welche sie in fremden Ländern feilboten (Odyss. xv. 459.), und nichts anderes war das goldene Kleinod (Odyss. xi. 327), um welches das schandbare Weib Eriphyle ihren Gemahl Amphiaraus verrieth. Merkwürdiger Weise wird dieses Halsband von Cicero monite genannt, und der

Africaner von Benin und Calabar nennet noch jetzt sein Ringgeld Manilla, מָנֶה עִלְּאָה (höchstes Gewicht). Wie vom hebräischen מָנֶה, welches zugleich phönikisch war, die griechische Μνᾶ und römische Mina stammt, so könnte auch wohl monile ursprünglich ein phönikisches Wort sein, und eine Goldkette von höchstem Werthe bezeichnen; ja selbst moneta damit verwandt sein, wenn gleich Suidas dieses Wortes Entstehung auf eine andere Weise zu erklären sucht: denn moneta könnte wohl ursprünglich ein einzelnes Stück der ganzen Kette, monile, bezeichnet haben. Diesemnach wäre das Ringgeld der Phöniken erst nach Homers Zeit aus den einzelnen Stücken der ursprünglich kostbarsten Handelswaare, des Halsbandes oder Busengeschmeides der Weiber (denn monile wurde nur von Weibern, wie torques von Männern getragen), auf eine sehr natürliche Weise hervorgegangen. Kein Wunder daher, wenn andere Völker statt des Goldes ein anderes Material des Geldes wählten, welches ebenfalls zu Halsbändern und anderm Geschmeide sich reihen ließ, wie Muscheln, Perlen, Koris und Gemmen. Gemmen wählten nach dem Erykias des Aeschines die Aethiopen, von welchen die Aegyptier es lernten. Da aber der Orientale seine Ringe zugleich als Amulete benutzte, was war natürlicher, als daß der Aegyptier seinen Gemmen Scarabäengestalt gab? Wie der Phönike Erzringe zur Scheidemünze benutzte, so der Aegyptier Scarabäen von gebackenem Thone. Der goldreiche Lydier dagegen bildete die ägyptischen Scarabäen wieder in Golde nach, wie der Aeginete in Silber. Während aber der Epheſier eine Biene an die Stelle des Scarabäes setzte, wählte der Aeginete eine Schildkröte, der Attiker eine Eule, der Böotier einen Schild, und das anfangs klumpige Geld wurde immer dünner und zierlicher, bis es im Mittelalter zu bloßem Bleche ward. Wenn nun aber die Phöniken erst nach Homers Zeit anfingen einzelne Glieder der kostbaren Halsbänder zu Gelde zu benutzen, so ist dieses auf eine schnellere Weise verschiedentlich abgeändert als man bisher geglaubt hat: und dieses scheint mir auch ganz der Natur gemäß. Wenn die Bücher der Chronica (1. Chron. xxix. 7.) schon von Dariken zu Davids und Salomo's Zeit sprechen, so hat der Verfasser derselben dergleichen Nachrichten, wie 2. Reg. xii 4., nach dem Sprachgebrauche seiner Zeit umgeändert. Denn persische Dariken konnten die Juden erst in der babylonischen Gefangenschaft kennen lernen, und selbst dieses würde noch zu früh erscheinen, wenn sie nicht schon bei Esra, ii. 69. & viii. 27, und Nehemia, viii. 20. ff. vorkämen. Auch diese Dariken werden, Esra, viii. 26. ff., noch zu dem gewogenen Golde gerechnet, und dürfen daher nicht mit den später geprägten Münzen verglichen werden. Im Isaias, iii. 21. gehören die Ringe und Stirnreife noch mit den Beuteln,

in welche (2. Reg. v. 23.) Geld gebunden wird, zum Weiberschmucke. Diese Ideen habe ich in aller Eile zusammengetragen, und können daher mit der Zeit noch wohl eine Abänderung erleiden; ich glaubte sie aber Ihnen nicht vorenthalten zu dürfen, weil sie Ihnen vielleicht Anlaß zu weitern Forschungen geben können. Daß Pheidon in Aegina noch kein eigentliches Geld prägte, sondern nur Maaße und Gewichte festsetzte, das erste Gold aber später in Lydien geprägt wurde, habe ich in dem Ihnen früher zugesandten Aufsatze ausgeführt. Man muß in dergleichen Nachrichten immer auf die erste Quelle zurückgehen: spätere Schriftsteller berichten manches, was nur durch Mißverständniß entstand. So ist über das erste Geld in Italien und Rom, wie über das erste Geld in Athen, von spätern Geschichtschreibern so vieles gefabelt, welches, als sich selbst widerlegend, gar keine Beachtung verdient. Es freut mich daher, daß auch Sie auf dergleichen Nachrichten keinen Werth gelegt haben: was uns noch vorhandene Münzen lehren, bleibt immer das Vorzüglichere, und eben deßhalb behauptet eine numismatische Gesellschaft, deren Hauptgegenstand immer die erhaltenen Münzen selbst sind, einen hohen Rang in der Wissenschaft.

Hochachtungsvoll mich fernerer Gewogenheit empfehlend,

Ihr

ergebenster Diener

G. F. Grotefend.

Hannover den 25. Juli 1838.

[TRANSLATION.]

I AVAIL myself of the acceptable visit of the illustrious Baronet, Sir John Herschel, to express to you my thanks, for the lately received essay on the proceedings of the Numismatic Society. Although I was already acquainted with its contents, from the abstract which I had received before, I am yet much more interested with the essay in its complete form. Your observations upon the use of gold rings, instead of money, have interested me so much, that I shall employ my leisure in studying particularly Sir W. Betham's ingenious discovery respecting gold rings and gold chains.

The investigations which I have pursued on this subject are, as yet, quite in their infancy. I have been able,

however, to satisfy myself upon this point—that the Greek translator of Cæsar's Gallic War (v. 12), had before him the correct text, 'Utuntur (Britanni) aut nummo æreo, aut anulis ferriis ad certum pondus examinatis pro nummo' —At the same time that Cæsar found iron rings used as money in Britain (where only a small quantity of iron was obtained on the sea coast, besides the tin of the interior, and copper obtained from foreign parts), gold rings were also used in the inland parts of Asia, if we may assume that the gold rings and muscle-shells, which have been found in the Indian topes, together with coins of very different kinds, supplied the place of coin in those countries. On enquiring into the origin of this custom, you may have discovered the oldest trace of it in Job xlii. 11, where the golden ring (the *kesita**) was presented; for 100 *of which* Jacob, also, bought a field in Canaan (Gen. xxxiii. 19):—In the time of Isaac (Gen. xxiv. 22, 30, 47), the gold ring was a woman's nose-jewel, as also an earring (Gen. xxxv. 4); and such seem to have been also the gold rings of the Ishmaelites, in the time of Gideon (Judges viii. 24). Now in Homer's time the Phœnicians strung together such rings, as those of gold and other shining metals, into necklaces and bracelets, which they offered for sale in foreign countries, (Odyss xv. 459); and of the same kind was the golden treasure (Od. xi. 327); for which the shameless woman Eriphyle betrayed her husband Amphiaraus. It is remarkable that this necklace is called by Cicero '*monile*,'

* קְשִׂיטָה (*keseetah*) from קשׂט *agnus, numus*, sub agni figura (*Buxtorf*). The intention of our valued correspondent is not quite clear; *keseetah* meaning always either a piece of money or a lamb, and is so rendered by our translators, both in Job xlii. 11 and Gen. xxxiii. 19, the passages alluded to. נֶזֶם זָהָב (*nezem zahav*) is "an earring of gold," and נֶזֶם (*nezem*) "earring," is the word that occurs in all the passages here cited. —*Ed. N. C.*

and the Africans of Benin and Calabar, still call their ring money 'manilla,' מָנָה עֶלְיוֹנָה (*greatest weight*), as from the Hebrew word מָנָה, which was also Phœnician, are derived the Greek Μνᾶ, and the Latin '*Mina*:' so also it may be that '*monile*' was originally a Phœnician word, signifying a gold chain of very high value; and even '*moneta*' may be connected with it, although Suidas tries to explain the origin of this word in another manner; for, '*moneta*' may originally have signified one single link of the whole chain '*monile*.' According to this, the Phœnician ring-money would have had its origin in Homer's time, in a very natural way, from the single links of what were, at first, the most valuable articles of trade, the necklaces or bosom-ornaments of women, for the '*monile*' was worn only by women, as the '*torquis*' by men: it is no wonder then, if other nations chose, instead of gold, another material for money, which was also capable of being strung into necklaces, and other ornaments; as muscle shells, pearls, cowries, and precious stones. According to the Erycia of Æschines, the Ethiopians chose precious stones, and the Egyptians learned it from them. As, however, the Oriental made use of his rings as amulets, what was more natural than that the Egyptian should give to his precious stones the shape of Scarabæi—as the Phœnician used metal rings for small coins, so the Egyptian used Scarabæi of baked clay. The Lydian again, who abounded in gold, copied the Egyptian Scarabæi in gold, as the Æginetan did in silver; while, however, the Ephesian put a bee in the place of the Scarabæus, the Æginetan chose a turtle, the Athenian an owl, the Bœotian a shield; and what was at first a massive piece of money became by degrees more thin and shapely, till, in the middle ages, it was reduced to a simple flat plate. But, if it was in Homer's time that the Phœnicians began to use links of valuable necklaces as

money, the alteration was more sudden than has been hitherto supposed; and this, in my opinion, is quite natural. If the book of Chronicles (1 Chron xxix. 7) speaks of *Darics** as early as the time of David and Solomon; their author must have altered that sort of information (2 Kings xii. 4), according to the mode of speaking in his own time, for the Jews could not have become acquainted with the Persian Darics till the Babylonian captivity: from this it would seem to be still too early, did they not occur in (Ezra ii. 69; viii. 27; and Nehemiah vii. 70); and these darics, too, are reckoned (Ezra viii. 27) in weighed gold, and must not, therefore, be confounded with the later stamped coin. In (Isaiah iii. 21), rings, forehead bands,† together with the bags, in which (2 Kings v. 23) money is tied up, belong to the women's ornaments.

I have put together these ideas in great haste, and they may, therefore, easily admit of alteration upon further consideration. I thought, however, that I ought not to keep them back from you, because they may, perhaps, give rise to further investigations on your part. In the essay which I have already sent you, I have shewn that Phidon did not stamp any actual coin at Ægina, but only established weights and measures; and that the first money was coined later in Lydia.

In information of this kind, we ought always to go back

* אַדַרְכֹנִים (*adarconim*), here translated *dariken* by our correspondent, occurs only twice in the Bible, in 1 Chron. xxix. 7, and in Ezra viii. 27; and in both instances, our translators have rendered it "drams," as also in the other passages, where the word is דַּרְכְּמוֹנִים (*darcmonim*), though both words are evidently intended for "Darics." The Books of Chronicles are attributed to Ezra, and the mention of Cyrus at the close, accounts for the use of this Persic word.—*Ed. N. C.*

† In Isaiah iii. 21, the words are "rings and nose-jewels;" and the word טַבָּעוֹת (*tabangoth*) is rendered "rings," while נֶזֶם (*nezem*) is rendered "jewels"—נִזְמֵי הָאָף (*nizmey-hahaph*) "ornaments for the nose."—*Ed. N. C.*

to original sources; later writers present a great deal of information, which arises only from mistake. Much fabulous matter has thus been related, by later historians, about the first money in Italy and Rome, as also about the first money in Athens, which, as even contradictory to itself, desires no regard whatever. I am glad, therefore, that you too, have set no value upon this kind of information; what we learn from coins that still exist, is always to be preferred; and on this account a Numismatic Society, whose chief object is the preserved coins themselves, holds a high rank in science.

Commending myself to your future favours, with great respect, Your faithful Servant, G. F. GROTEFEND.

To DR. LEE, *Pres. Num. Soc.*

XIX.

THE EAGLE AND THUNDERBOLT ON THE COINS OF ROME AND SYRIA.

BY SAMUEL SHARPE, ESQ.

[Read before the Numismatic Society, December 27, 1838.]

THE greater part of the coins of the Ptolemies, the kings who governed Egypt after the death of Alexander the Great, have on one side the Eagle and Thunderbolt, which may easily be shewn to be the same as the Eagle and Sun, the well known hieroglyphic for king, or Pharaoh upon the earlier Egyptian monuments. The coins, indeed, of Cleopatra Cocce and her sons, which have on them two eagles, because there were two sovereigns reigning together, are alone enough to prove this meaning.

In the series of Roman consular coins, as engraved by Goltzius, we find seven coins having the same eagle and thunderbolt, which in some cases may be proved, and in the other cases seem likely, to have been used in Rome, in boast of the senate having exercised some act of sovereignty

over Egypt. As there are also several other coins in the same series, on which we see marks of the Roman dealings with Egypt, and which bear upon this argument, I shall bring them forward in the order of time, as I meet with them.

The first time that we meet with the Romans in the history of Egypt, indeed the first time that they had been heard of out of Italy as a nation, is in the year B. C. 274, when Pyrrhus king of Macedonia had been beaten by them in Italy, and Ptolemy Philadelphus, the greatest king of his day, sent an embassy to Rome to wish them joy of their success. The senate sent back to Egypt four ambassadors to make a treaty of friendship with the great king; and three years afterwards, when two of these ambassadors were chosen consuls, we see the fruits of their visit to Alexandria; we learn from Pliny, and the coins, that C. Fabius Pictor and Q. Ogulnius Gallus then coined the first silver *denarii* that were seen in Rome.

It is not, however, till many years later, till Rome and Egypt had changed places with one another, till the Romans spoke as masters, and the Ptolemies obeyed the haughty orders of the senate, that we find on the Roman coins those striking traces of their dealings with Egypt. In the year B. C. 204, this great kingdom and its wide provinces, in Africa, in Asia, and even in Europe, weakened by the vices and misgoverment of Ptolemy Philopator, passed into the hands of his son Ptolemy Epiphanes, then a child only five years old; and it was in danger of being conquered, and having its provinces shared between the kings of Syria and Macedonia, when the ministers of the infant autocrat put their country under the care of Rome. The senate then sent M. Æmilius Lepidus to govern Egypt in their name, under the modest title of tutor to the young king.

This high honour was not forgotten by Lepidus, when he afterwards struck his consular coins. On one side of them we see the city of Alexandria, represented by the head of a woman crowned with walls and turrets, with the word ALEXANDREA; and on the other side is the Roman in his toga, holding the diadem over the head of the young Ptolemy, with the words TVTOR · REG among his other titles.

We now come to the first eagle and thunderbolt that we meet with on the Roman coins. It is on one struck by Sextus Allius Catus, when he was Curule Ædile, in the eighth year of his reign; and though we know nothing that he had to do with Egypt, beyond being employed, according to Livy, in bringing coin from Alexandria for the use of Rome, yet it seems probable, and will in the course of these pages be made still more so, that it was for some act of sovereignty which he then exercised in Egypt on behalf of the senate, that he put these marks of Egyptian royalty on his coins.

Forty years later the senate was again called upon to save Egypt from being conquered by Antiochus the Great, king of Syria, and then to settle the quarrels between Ptolemy Philometor, and Ptolemy Evergetes II., who were fighting for the crown of Egypt. This the senate did by sending away the younger brother to reign in Cyrene. We do not know who were the Roman ambassadors who made this award, but Cassius Longinus who was consul the next year, and Juventius Thalna who was consul the year after, both put the thunderbolt and eagle on their coins, and thereby lead us to believe that they so far governed Egypt in the name of the senate.

The next eagle and thunderbolt is on a coin of C. Marius, who seems to be the son of the general who was seven times

consul, rather than the great man himself. But, in either case, it seems to point to some share, that he may have had, either in seizing or governing the province of Cyrene, which the senate took from Egypt, in the year B. C. 97.

The next time that we meet with these marks of Egyptian royalty, is in the coins of Lentulus Sura, and Aurelius Cotta, who were consuls; the first in the tenth, and the second in the fifteenth years of Ptolemy Neus Dionysius, As he spent many of the first years of his reign in begging and bribing the senate to acknowledge him as king, we can well understand that these Roman consuls may have had some good cause to claim this distinction; indeed, Cicero tells us in his second oration against Rullus, that in the consulship of Cotta, the senate found it necessary to send a fleet to Alexandria to enforce their orders.

About the same time we find a coin of Licinius Crassus, with a crocodile on one side, and the prow of a ship on the other; which must be understood to mean that he beat the Egyptian fleet in the mouth of the Nile: and this meaning of it may be said to be proved by a coin of Julius Cæsar, which has on it a crocodile, with the words AEGYPTO CAPTA.

For the last time before the fall of Egypt, we find the eagle and thunderbolt on the coins of C. Sosius, the friend of Marc Antony, who at the same time put the head of Antony, who was then king of Egypt, on the other side of his coins. This was the last year that Antony's party was uppermost in Rome; and he was, for the third time, made consul elect for the coming year; but before he entered upon office, war was declared against him by Octavianus: he was beaten at Actium, and Egypt made a province of Rome.

After this time we often meet with the same emblems

on the Roman coins under the early Cæsars; but enough have been brought forward to shew that they were borrowed from Egypt, and always meant as a boast of some sway over that country.

If we now turn to the history of Syria, we see that when Ptolemy Philometor, king of Egypt, quarrelled with Demetrius Soter, he set up Alexander Balas, as a pretender to the throne of Syria. Alexander, with the help of his Egyptian ally, overthrew Demetrius, and slew him in battle. He was then acknowledged as king of Syria, and he married the daughter of the king of Egypt. On this he put the Ptolemaic eagle and thunderbolt on his coins; and we can hardly be mistaken in saying, that unlike the Romans, he did so to acknowledge his debt to Ptolemy Philometor.

Alexander Balas, however, soon quarrelled with his father-in-law, who recalled his daughter, and then turned those forces against him, which had only just seated him on the throne. Philometor sent for Demetrius, the son of his late enemy Demetrius Soter, and marched with him against Alexander Balas; and in that very year, as we learn from the date of the coins, Demetrius put on them his own head, with the eagle and thunderbolt.

Antiochus VI., the son of Alexander Balas, was for a short time made use of as a puppet by an ambitious general, and seated on the throne of Syria; and he also, most likely in imitation of his father, put the eagle and thunderbolt on his coins.

These are the chief of the coins which were struck with the eagle and thunderbolts, before the fall of the Ptolemies; and when taken together, and thus set side by side with the facts in history, seem to prove that they are all copied from the coins of Egypt.

There are, however, some other coins which may be

mentioned. One of Pyrrhus, the last of the Macedonian kings, the king who was led captive to Rome, has the same eagle and thunderbolt; but the gaps which disfigure history, are unfortunately so wide, that we know not what he had to do with Egypt. There is another coin still more important. It has on one side a head meant for a portrait; on the other side, the eagle and thunderbolt with the words ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ·ΕΥΑΓΟΡΟΥ·ΚΥΠΡΙΩΝ, *Of king Evagoras, of the Cyprians;* and the whole is within a branch of laurel. Now, Evagoras reigned over Cyprus before the time of Alexander the Great, and joined Acoris, king of Egypt, in a league against the invasion of Persia, Hence, if this coin were made in the reign of the king whose name it bears, instead of being copied from the Egyptian coins, it must have been the model from which the Ptolemies copied. But this is very unlikely, we may almost say impossible. There is nothing about the coin, as shown in the engravings, which agrees with such an age, and it is much more likely to have been coined in Cyprus, after that island had been conquered by the Romans, and to have had the head of Evagorus put upon it, in honour of the greatest king that this land ever had to boast of. The coin is very much in the style of that of king Perseus, last mentioned.

XX.

THE CITY MEDAL.

BY PERMISSION OF THE ROYAL ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE,

We have the gratification of giving with our present number an engraving of the city medal, executed by Mr.

CITY MEDAL.

William Wyon. Many of our readers are aware, that when her majesty dined at Guildhall last year, that artist published a small medal in commemoration of the event; having on one side the head of the Queen, and on the reverse the representation of the Guildhall, with an inscription on the exergue. The city authorities took the hint, and the chairman of the Royal Entertainment Committee had an interview with Mr. Wyon, and proposed that he should execute a medal on a much larger scale, to record the visit of the youthful Queen. The following is an abstract of the report of the committee.—

> "To the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons of London, in Common Council assembled."
>
> "We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, your committee appointed to conduct the entertainment to Her Majesty in Guildhall, on Thursday, the 9th day of November last, to whom it was referred to provide a suitable and appropriate medal, commemorative of an event so highly honourable to the City of London, and to whom it was also referred, to make their humble application to Her Majesty, that she would be pleased to do the city the honour to sit for her picture, and to signify her royal pleasure therein; and that they do at the same time express to Her Majesty, the deep and grateful sense this court will ever retain of Her Majesty's gracious condescension, in honouring their late entertainment in the Guildhall with her royal presence, and that of the royal family, and to give such other directions in respect thereof, as we might see most fit; do certify, that having considered the best course to be pursued with respect to providing the medal, we were attended by Mr. William Wyon, one of the officers of Her Majesty's mint, who laid before us several profiles of Her Majesty, for the new coinage; and we agreed with him to provide a medal, bearing on the obverse Her Majesty's head with a tiara, with the words VICTORIA · REGINA, and on the re-

verse, a representation of the front of Guildhall, with the royal standard and the words IN HONOUR OF HER MAJESTY'S VISIT TO THE CORPORATION OF LONDON, ON THE 9th OF NOVEMBER, 1837, &c. &c.

The report concludes with an account of the application of the committee to Her Majesty, that she would be graciously pleased to sit for her portrait, and Her Majesty's assent to the request.

As a work of art, this medal will speak for itself; as a portrait of Her Majesty, its fidelity is acknowledged by the most competent judges.

XXI.

ON THE MEDALLIONS OF CARACALLA AND GETA, WITH THE HEAD OF THE LATTER ERASED.

ON the 21st of June last, a paper was read to the Numismatic Society by Mr. Samuel Birch, on the brass medallions of Caracalla and Geta, struck at Pergamus and at Stratonicea, with the head of the latter erased from the field. These medallions have already been noticed by Sestini in his "Descrizione del Museo Hedervariano,"* and supposed by that learned writer to have been thus defaced in consequence of a prescript of Caracalla. He states, that in the collection alluded to, there are seven medallions struck in honour of the family of Severus, and that the head of Geta on the pieces in question, was doubtless destroyed, together with the inscriptions and every other memorial of the unfortunate prince. Spartian does not allude to this endeavour of Caracalla to blot out the memory of his murdered brother; but Dio distinctly says, that the images of Geta were destroyed; and that even comic poets were not suffered to call their servants by the name of Geta.

* Parte II. 4to, Ferinze, 1828, p. 233.

Mr. Birch remarks, that it is not a little singular that the erasure should have been made on the money of a remote Asiatic town, while the coinage of the imperial mint of Rome remained untouched. From this circumstance the writer is led to conclude, that the erasure was effected by the local authorities at Pergamus and Stratonicea, who endeavoured to cultivate the favour of Caracalla by this spontaneous act of servility, in the true spirit of the times, and in perfect accordance with the acts of the municipal functionaries, "quo nobiliores eo promptiores ad servitium." Both these towns struck several coins in honour of Severus and his family, which generally bear the portraits of its members, thus: Severus and Julia Domna—Caracalla and Geta—Caracalla and Plautilla. The offence to Caracalla was the association of Geta in the empire under the title of Augustus. On the coins bearing his effigy alone, or the title of Cæsar only, the portrait remains uninjured.

The authority of the medals is thus as conflicting as that of the historians, who represent Caracalla as shedding tears at his brother's statue or portrait, and indiscriminately murdering Geta's partisans or his own adherents. Popular indignation manifested itself immediately after the commission of the fraticidal act; and to wipe off the obloquy of the deed, Caracalla ultimately allowed his brother to be styled "Divus," with the remark, "Sit divus, dum non sit vivus;" and the historian continues, "Denique eum inter divos retulit, atque ideo utcunque rediit cum forma in gratiam parricida."

The mint of Stratonicea commemorates this fact by the countermark of ΘΕΟΥ; and a small head placed below the erased bust, or on the erasure. But this is not all: on these coins, which bear the heads of Severus and Domna, there is the countermark of a small head, and the letters

ΓΕΤ·ΘΕΟΥ, which leaves no doubt of the meaning or application of the latter word. The same countermark also appears on a medallion of Caracalla and Plautilla.

The coins alluded to in this paper are as follows:—

PERGAMUS IN MYSIA.

ΑΥΤΟ·ΚΑΙ·Μ·ΑΥΡΗ·ΑΝΤΩΝΕΙΝΟC Busts of Caracalla and Geta in military attire, facing that of Caracalla to the left, and Geta to the right *erased*. Countermark, a small head.

Rev.—ЄΠΙ·CΤΡΤ·ΚΛΑΥΔΙΑΝΟΥ·ΤЄΡΠΑΝΔΡΟΥ. A female figure standing, her head surmounted by the calathus; in her right hand a patera, in her left a cornucopia, Victory behind, placing a garland on her head. In the exergue, ΠЄΡΓΑΜΗΝΩΝ·Β(?) ΝЄΩΚΟΡΩΝ.——Æ. *Medallion.*

Specimens of this medallion are in the collection of the British Museum, and in the cabinet of Mr. Burgon.

STRATONICEA IN CARIA.

I.

. ΚΑΙ·Α·ЄЄ·CЄΟΥΗΡΟC Laureated busts of Severus and Domna face to face; between them a small beardless helmed head, countermarked with ΓЄΤ and ΘЄΟΥ.

Rev.—ЄΠΙΜЄΛΗ · · · ΤΙ · · · ΑΡΙCΤЄΑ·CΤΡΑΤΟΝΙΚЄΩΝ. Diana Leucophryne standing with her attributes; a star and moon in the field. *Sestini*, loco. sup. p. 232.

II.

ΑΥΤ·Κ·Μ·ΑΥΡ·ΑΝΤΩΝ · · · ΙΝΟC·C · · · Α · · · C·ΓЄΤΑC·Κ. The busts of Caracalla and Geta, facing that of Caracalla laureated and to the left, and of Geta to the right erased, as well as his name. Countermark, a small human head.

Rev.—ΠΡ·ΖΩCΙΜΟΥ·ΤΟΥ·ΠΡΟCΙCΤΟΥ·CΤΡΑΤΟΝΙΚЄΩΝ. Severus in military attire, on horseback before an altar, holding in his left hand a spear——Æ. *Medallion. Sestini*, loco. sup. p. 280.

This medallion is figured by Sestini, who probably considers the letters ΠΡ. to stand for ΠΡοδικου; as he mentions the local government of the city to have been under Cura-

tori among other officers. They might, however, stand for ΠΡυτάνεως, but the ΠΡ in these instances is generally *affixed* to the name.

III.

Obverse—as the preceding, but with the countermark of ΘΕΟΥ.

Rev.—ЄΠΙ · ΑΡΧΟΝΤΟC · · · · · CΤΡΑΤΟΝΙΚЄΩΝ · · A female figure standing full faced, her head surmounted by the flower of the lotus; in her right hand a patera, in her left, a torch held erect. A dog reclining at her feet and looking up to the goddess.——Æ. *Medallion. Sestini*, ibid.

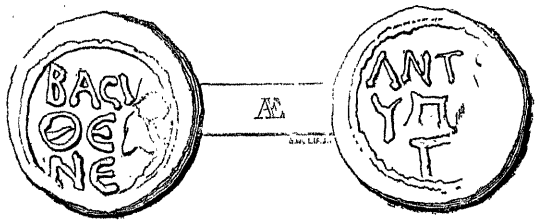
The goddess is Diana Luna, the scene of whose loves with Endymion, was laid at M Latmus or Lathymus in Caria.

IV.

Obverse—as the preceding.

Rev.— · · · · · · IACONOC · CΤΡΑΤΟΝΙΚЄΩΝ. A female figure walking to the left, her head surmounted by the calathus and lunated disk; in her right hand a torch held erect; the object held in her right hand obliterated.——Æ. *Medallion. Cabinet of Mr. Burgon.*

Mr. Birch observes, that this medallion has been restruck, but that the type is similar to that of the preceding, indicating the same goddess; and that the lotus flower of Sestini is probably the calathus and disk, the common head attire of Diana in her character of Hecate, or the full and dichotomized disk of the moon.



XXII.

OBSERVATIONS ON A COIN OF CLEOPATRA AND M. ANTONY.

[In a letter to the Editor.]

In answer to your friend's questions, respecting the curious coin above engraved, the following observations occur to me. If you should deem them worthy of insertion in your next number, they are much at your service.

It is not unknown to you that we are indebted to Haym for the first notice of this coin;[1] and the merit is due to him of having correctly attributed it, and noticed its date. It may, however, be observed, that the indifferent preservation (*mediocre conservazione*) of the specimen which he had under his eye, probably led him into the error of reading and engraving ΝΕΑ instead of Ν€, for it is very unlikely that the word ΝΕΑ should be found on it.

The coin having on each side merely an inscription occupying *the field*, may be cited, as affording one of the few examples known, of a coin without any *type* or representation on it. This circumstance renders it also, at first ight, rather a dubious matter, which side was originally ntended as the *obverse;* but as the style of *the minting* appears to be decidedly Egyptian, this inquiry I shall con-

[1] Tesoro Britannico, 1720. Vol. ii. p. 171. plate 1. No. 5.

sider as solved, by following the peculiar and well-known indications in this respect, which are uniformly to be observed on most of the copper coins of the Ptolemies. We shall, therefore, probably not err, in describing our coin as follows; supplying, from a very fine and perfect example in the British Museum, the letters partially obliterated in the present specimen.

Obverse.—BACIΛ · ΘЄA · NЄ.
Rev.—ANTω · ΥΠA · Γ.

I have often had occasion to remark that *coins are the best commentators on coins;* and on this occasion, we may, with advantage, call in the aid of an unerring, and most satisfactory commentary on the above truncated words, by referring to another coin (also in the British Museum), without which there might, perhaps, arise a diversity of opinion as to the true reading of both inscriptions, especially that on the obverse. It will, however, be readily conceded, on referring to the following description, that there can be no doubt that the coin under consideration was also struck in honour of Cleopatra, and M. Antony.

Obverse.—Portrait of Cleopatra BACIΛICCA · KΛЄOΠATPA ΘЄA · NЄωTЄPA.

Rev.—Portrait of M · Antony M · ANTωNIOC · AYTOKPATωP TPITON · TPIωN · ANΔPωN.

Returning to our coin, therefore, we interpret the inscription on its obverse, Queen [Cleopatra] the younger (or new) Goddess [Isis], and that on the reverse [Marcus] Antonius, consul for the third time. It is precisely the letters ΥΠA[τος] · Γ. (equivalent to COS · III., so often seen on Roman denarii) which gives the coin before us a degree of interest, perhaps, unexpected, as it supplies us with a date; and helps us to ascertain on what occasion the title o

the younger goddess, or *the new Isis* was probably given to Cleopatra.

According to Eckhel,[2] Antony became consul for the third time A. U. C. 723, (or B. C. 31), in the early part of which year our coin was most probably struck at Alexandria: for as the battle of Actium was fought in September, and those disasters immediately followed which led to the death of Antony and Cleopatra soon afterwards, there appears to be no period of the year B. C. 31, except the early part of it, to which the date on the coin can apply. It is remarkable, that to this period some of the most extraordinary passages in the lives of Antony and Cleopatra are to be referred. We learn from the 53rd Book of Dion Cassius (which comprises the history of the years of Rome, 722 and 723, B. C. 32 and 31), that among many other abuses of the religious ceremonies of the times, Cleopatra caused herself to be drawn about in public as a goddess, in a golden car, and that she and Antony "*were painted, and otherwise represented, together, the one as Osiris and Bacchus, and the other as Selene and Isis*[3].

Plutarch, in his life of Antony, referring to about the same period of time, relates, that having assembled the Alexandrians in the Gymnasium, Antony made an oration to the people, sitting on a throne of gold; and that Cleopatra, who occupied a similar throne by his side, "*wore the sacred robe of Isis, and gave answers to the people as the new* [or young] *Isis.*"[4]

These events, as recorded by the authorities cited, immediately preceded the date of the coin before us, and there-

[2] Doct. Num. Vet. Vol. vi. p. 48.

[3] Συνεγράφετό τε ἀυτῇ, καὶ συνεπλάττετο, αὐτὸς μὲν Ὄσιρις καὶ Διόνυσος, ἐκείνη δὲ, Σελήνη τε καὶ Ἶσις, λέγοντες εἶναι.—*Dion Cas. Lib. LIII.*

[4] "Στολὴν ἱερὰν Ἴσιδος ἐλάμβανε, καὶ νέα Ἶσις ἐχρημάτιζε." *Plutarch: vit: Ant.* § 54.

fore render needless any further explanation of the purport of its singular inscription, with which it is also sufficiently obvious that we may connect an intention to honour and commemorate the personages alluded to. That the people of Egypt had been long familiar with the ceremony of deifying their kings, is proved by the inscription on the Rosetta stone.

In admitting, however, that it was the intention of the Alexandrians to honour Cleopatra and Antony by striking the coin under consideration, it will be perceived that it was *not as mortals that they were so honoured.* I must be allowed here to refer to an opinion which I formerly expressed,[5] and would adduce this coin in support of that opinion. It must not be for a moment supposed, that it was ever intended as *a medal* struck for the purpose of commemoration alone, as is the case with modern medals ; on the contrary, it can be proved to have been *a current coin.*

In a copy of Havercamp, before me, is preserved a set of plates, of the coins of the kings of Egypt, which were never published, and appear to have been suppressed, perhaps for want of the letter press: among the coins engraved on these plates, in addition to a specimen corresponding in size, and every other particular, with the coin under consideration, I find an engraving of a coin half the size, and bearing precisely the same inscription; the one being size No. 7, of Mionnet, and the other size No. 4½. The coins are very well engraved, and represented of their real dimensions; so that this plate proves the existence of two sizes of the coin we have been considering, and leads to the conclusion that it was unquestionably struck, (as were all other ancient coins), for current money only.

Brunswick Square,
Dec. 19*th*, 1838.

THOMAS BURGON.

[5] Numismatic Journal, Vol. I. page 124, Art. XVIII.

MISCELLANIES.

COLLECTION OF ORIENTAL COINS, BELONGING TO DR. DE SPREWITZ.—The following account of this celebrated collection will afford much curious information to the reader of Oriental literature, and more especially to every admirer of Oriental Numismatics.

Dr. de Spréwitz, a Russian counsellor, known as an able and zealous numismatist, has spent much time and labour, during his residence in Moscow, in forming an extensive collection of Oriental coins. Advanced age, however, and a consequent change of circumstances, now compel him to give a description of the contents of his cabinet, under the hope that some more youthful labourer in the same department, or some public society, may be induced to purchase the entire series.

This collection has been arranged by Mr. Frähn, counsellor of state, and director of the Asiatic Museum at St. Petersburg; and it appears from his *Descriptive Catalogue*, that there is a sum total of 1018 pieces, viz. 15 of gold, 874 of silver, and 103 of copper. They are distributed into the following classes:—

1.	Coins of the Caliphs:	
	a. Omayades	16 pieces.
	b. Abbasides	270 "
2.	Ispebehdis	30 "
3.	Edrisides	7 "
4.	Aghlebides	2 "
5.	Tahirides	25 "
6.	Samanides	111 "
7.	Princes of the Bulgarians	2 "
8.	Boowihides	2 "
9.	Siyarides	1 "
10.	Merwanides	1 "
11.	Turk-Chans Hoei-ke	9 "
12.	Seldshukides	8 "
13.	Atabekes	7 "
14.	Artokides	6 "
15.	Choresmi Shahs	5 "
16.	Dshudshides (Khans of the Golden Hord)	259 "
17.	Khans of the Crimm	5 "

18. Hulaguides	13	pieces.
19. Ilechanides	3	"
20. Dshagataides	5	"
21. Timoorides, Kybanides, &c.	9	"
22. Baboorides	5	"
23. Osmanides (Turks)	40	"
24. Dynasts of Persia	39	"
25. Pagratides	26	"
26. Different Dynasties, and uncertain ones	20	"
27. Miscellaneous Coins, Chinese, Japanese, &c.	20	"

In addition to the above, there are five Mahomedan seals, and two scymetars, with Persian inscriptions.

This splendid collection is well known; M. Frähn who has arranged, classified, and catalogued it, speaks of it in his dissertation on three coins of the Wolga-Bulghares, in the "Memoires de l'Acad. Impér. des Sc. de St. Petersb. VIme. serie," 1830: and again in his dissertation on the coins of the Ulus Dshudgi, St. Petersb. 1832. Those coins which were procured for this collection from the cabinet of M. Pflug are mentioned by him in his work "*Beiträge zur Muhamedanischen Numismatik.*" The short treatise of this author, "De Musei Sprewitziani Mosquae Numis Cupreis," refers to a former collection of Dr. de Sprewitz, now in the cabinet of the university of Charkow.

The following observations will shew the great value and importance of the collection.

Among the coins of the Caliphs are two most remarkable ones of silver, of the year of the Hegira 148, coined at Kufa and at Arran; the only coins heretofore known of that year, are one of copper (Bokharra) in the cabinet of St. Petersburgh; and one of silver (Muhammedan) at Stockholm. The collection at St. Petersburgh possesses but a fragment of a silver coin of the year 194 Serendsch; but in that of Dr. de Sprewitz, there is a specimen in fine preservation; there is also a silver coin of the year 199, coined by a Tobbatoka, under the sovereignty of Mahmoun, which is particularly rare. About sixteen years ago, by a lucky accident, the cabinet at Gotha produced a coin of Ali Kidha, Mahmoun's proclaimed successor (*Hall. Literat. Zeit.* 1820, No. 286), with which it was possible to complete a fragment of a similar coin of the year 204, published by M. Frähn (Prolusio, p. 19, &c.). Since that time M. Frähn has published a similar coin, belonging to the cabinet of Mr. Nejelow; a third specimen of the year 204, coined at Mahommedia, is in the collection of M. de Sprewitz, in whose possession are likewise one of each of the years 208, 209, 210 (of which years only two besides are known to numismatists) that of 208 was coined at Demeshk, of

209, and of 210, at Arran. The coins of Mahmoun's immediate successor, are all very scarce; here there are 28 of them. Of the Caliph Mutassembillah, only 7 are known to be in existence, 2 in the Academy of Science, at St. Petersburgh, and 5 in this collection. Of Mulewekkel-al-Allah, there are here 8 coins; at St. Petersburgh only 2. Of Mustaim only 4 coins were heretofore known (248, 249, and 250) one of them of Tiflis (248) was in the cabinet of M. Pflug; and it is now, with 5 others, in the possession of M. de Sprewitz. Of Mused-billah, only 4 were known; in this collection, there are as many. Of Muhtedi, of which there is only one specimen at St. Petersburgh, and no other known, there is here one. Of the two coins of Mutemed, one is to be found here, of the year 256, formerly in the possession of M. Pflug. There is also a coin of the year 333, on which the name of the coining place is not very distinct. This piece is very remarkable, it bears the name of the Caliph, El-Mostakfi-billah, and of the famous Emir-al-Omrah, Turun or Tuzun. These are the most interesting among the coins of the Caliphs; and the number is greater than that of any other collection of which we have any knowledge. At St. Petersburgh, for instance, we find only 9 coins of the Omayades, and 58 of the Abbassides; at Kajan 9 of the Omayades, and 49 of the Abbassides; at Gotha 12 of the former, and 74 of the latter; at Milan 13 Omayades, and 44 Abbassides. Marsden mentions 15 of the Omayades, and 52 of the Abbassides. The present collection is enriched with 16 of the Omayades, and 270 of the Abbassides. The following classes contain many remarkable species. The coins of the Ispebedis have obtained an interest from M. Frähn's discovery, that they were coined by the native prince of Tabarestan, towards the end of the eighth century, being formerly ascribed to the Saffanides, and afterwards supposed to be the first coins of the Caliphs. The coins of the Tahrides are particularly numerous, and some very rare, while at St. Petersburgh there are but 11, at Kasan 4, and in the other collections mentioned above, there are none: those which are particularly deserving of notice are, one of the year 220, of which only 2 are known; one of the year 221, the only one known; one of 226, of which year but one is known; and one of 233, the only one known. The coins of the Wolga-Bulgharians, are extremely rare; one of the year 338, belonging to this collection, has been described by M. Frähn in his dissertation, where he calls it, not undeservedly, "an ornament of the new collection of M. de Sprewitz:" another coin is of the year 366. Of the rare coins of the Buwihredes, M. Frähn has described that of the year 337, (Schiraz) which is now in this collection, as "Nummum rarissimum."

These observations may be sufficient to call the attention of

numismatists to a collection which, in its kind, surpasses any known private one, and can be put in comparison with any public one.

These few descriptive remarks may suffice to invite the attention both of private individuals, and of the directors of public cabinets, to a collection of oriental coins far surpassing that of any amateur, and scarcely inferior, in value and extent, to the Oriental series of any national institution.

Dr. Grote, of Hanover, is charged with the negociation; and the editor of the Numismatic Chronicle will undertake the transmission of any communication on the subject.

New Edition of Ruding's Annals of the Coinage.—Thirteen numbers of the new edition of this valuable and important work have already appeared. Besides several new plates, it contains much additional letter-press, comprising an account of the vast deposit of coins in the river Dove at Tutbury, and the Beaworth hoard of the pennies of William the Conqueror. The typography of this edition is remarkable for its neatness and beauty, and the whole work, when completed, will be a valuable addition to the English Historical Library, since it is not to the numismatist alone that it will prove useful. The history of the coinage of any nation must be important, and cannot fail to throw much light on manners and customs, to which the ordinary chronicler but seldom alludes. "Ruding" is rich in such information; and those who would make themselves acquainted with some of the most interesting events in English history, will do well to subscribe to the "Annals of the Coinage," even though not possessed of a taste for numismatic studies.

Numismatic Books.—The prices realised at the sale of the late Mr. Young's stock of Numismatic Books, afford good evidence that the taste for numismatic pursuits is gaining ground in this country. All the books sold well, and some of them brought prices so high, as to make it evident that the purchasers, in their eagerness to form a numismatic library, paid but little attention to the intrinsic merit of the works.

Discovery of Treasure.—A countryman, while raising stones, some days ago, on a farm in the barony of Knockninny, in this county, was fortunate enough to find, under a heavy flag, an earthen vessel containing a large number of gold coins of various kinds, some of them of great antiquity, and all in perfect preservation. Among them we observed guineas of the reign of William III., George I., and George II., with half guineas of those reigns, some large Portuguese, and small Roman

coins, all bright, and of the purest gold. There was an aperture under the stone, large enough to admit a hand to reach the treasure.—*Erne Packet.*

Coin Sale at Munich.—On the 23rd of July last, the duplicate coins of the Royal Collection were sold at Munich. The sale catalogue is entitled—*Verzeichniss, von Münzen und Medaillen besonders bayerischer, pfalzischer und geistlicher Fürsten München Lindau.* 1838. 12mo., pp. 216, with a genealogical table.

History of the French Cabinet.—The Chevalier du Mersan has published a small volume in octavo, entitled—"*Histoire du Cabinet des Médailles, Antiques, et Pierres gravées,*" &c. Paris 1838. Besides an interesting account of the formation and increase of this splendid national museum, the volume contains a descriptive catalogue, illustrated by notes, of every remarkable object of ancient and modern art, with biographical notices of those *savans* whose labours and writings have contributed to the enlargement, or the illustration, of the numerous monuments of antiquity contained in the Bibliothèque Royale. We shall recur to this very interesting work in a future number.

The "*Numismatische Zeitung,*" edited by M. Leitzmann, now in its fifth year, is published in 4to. every fifteen days, at Weissengie in Thuringia. It is devoted exclusively to the coins of the middle ages. We regret to find that the publication of the "*Blätter für Münzkunde*" has been suspended.

The "*Revue Numismatique,*" continues to flourish under the superintendence of its able editors, M. M. de la Saussaye, and Cartier. We have marked several articles for especial notice, but must reserve our remarks for some future number.

English Coronation Medals.—Mr. William Till, whose work on "the Roman Denarius, and English Silver Penny," we had occasion to notice a few months ago, is again in the field. Encouraged by the notices of his former work, "more than fifty reviews from the country, as well as the metropolis, all favourable," he now presents them with another duodecimo under the following title—"Descriptive Particulars of English Coronation Medals, from the Inauguration of King Edward VI., to our present sovereign, Queen Victoria," &c. Mr. Till is as discursive as usual. He discourses of Dr. Johnson, and Green, the balloonman; of the Anglesea pennies, and Count Bergami; of Admiral Blake, and Robert Cocking; of the Lion's Head, at Venice, and Tom's Coffee House in London: in fact, of every thing animate

and inanimate, which can by any possibility be brought within the sphere of the subject of which he treats.

THE IRISH COINAGE.—Mr. John Lindsay of Cork, barrister at law, is engaged on a history of the coinage of Ireland. He is well known to our readers by various numismatic papers ; and we have confident hopes, that this history of the coinage of the sister country will contain much that is new and interesting. Mr. Lindsay's numismatic knowledge and zeal are attested by what he has already achieved, and we look with impatience for his forthcoming volume.

DISCOVERY OF ANGLO-SAXON COINS IN NORWAY.—In the month of February 1836, there were discovered near Egersund, a large quantity of coins of the tenth and eleventh centuries. Besides several of Otho and the Dukes of Bavaria, of the name of Henry, there was a considerable number of the pennies of our Anglo-Saxon Princes ; namely, Eadgar, Edward II., Ethelred, and Canute ; and these are said to contain the names of 60 moneyers unknown to Ruding. This treasure is supposed to have been buried between the year 1028 and 1030, when Canute invaded Norway, and marched against Olaüs, the king of that country. The whole of the coins were purchased for the museum of Christiana, and have been arranged and classed by the Curator M. Holmboe, in a work published in that city in 1836. We have not seen this work, but it is highly commended by our excellent colleague M. Cartier, in the second number of the "*Revue Numismatique*" (Mars et Avril 1838).

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

The Society met for the Session, on THURSDAY THE 22nd of NOVEMBER.

Dr. Lee, President, in the Chair.

Numerous presents of Numismatic works, as well as of coins and medals, were announced, among which was a box of coins collected in Alexandria, by Lord Prudhoe.

The papers read were—

I.

Ring Money of the Ancients. } A letter from Dr. Grotefend of Hannover, on the Ring Money of the Ancients, &c. &c.

II.

Memorial of Blondeau. } A letter from Mr. W. R. Hamilton, President of the Royal Society of Literature, introducing a memorial of Blondeau on the state of the English Mint in the seventeenth century.

III.

Roman Coin Moulds. } Translations of two papers in the "*Revue de la Numismatique Françoise*," on the Roman Coin Moulds found in France.

All these papers appear in the present number of the Numismatic Chronicle.

Mr. Baron Bolland, was duly elected a Member of the Society;

Which then adjourned to December 27, 1838.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We are under obligations to many foreign correspondents, who have kindly forwarded to us letters and notices. We beg, however, to remind them that *the charge for postage for a pamphlet of some dozen pages, amounts to nearly as many shillings sterling!* Owing to this we have been reluctantly compelled to refuse several pamphlets, which have been sent through the post.

Our friends at Sandwich, Liverpool, Northampton, York, Birmingham, Dover, and Norwich, will receive our acknowledgments for their various kind attentions.

We have long been in expectation of hearing from M. Thomsen, to whom we forwarded on the 25th of November a letter and pacquet.

C. S. will do well to procure the "*Essai de Classification des Suites Monetaires Byzantine*" of Mr. F. de Saulcy, which will greatly assist him in the arrangement of his cabinet. Du Cange and Banduri are useful, but much new light has been thrown on the coins of the Byzantine series since the time of these writers. The plates in illustration of M. de Saulcy's work are most accurate and valuable to the collector and student.

We are sorry that, in replying to our correspondent E. H. in our last number, we omitted to state that the paragraph on the coronation medal, written by J. W. B., was inaccurately printed. For "which really is an agreeable and happy manner—the feeling" &c., read "which recalls in an agreeable and happy manner the feeling," &c.

XXIII.

ON THE DATE OF CLEOPATRA'S ASSUMPTION OF THE TITLE ΘΕΑ · ΝΕΩΤΕΡΑ.

SIR,

THE coin of Antony and Cleopatra, so ingeniously described in your last number, possesses the greater interest, because, as Mr. Burgon observes, "*it supplies us with a date*, and helps us to ascertain on what occasion the title of *the younger goddess*, or *the new Isis*, WAS PROBABLY GIVEN to Cleopatra." I will venture to assert, that the coin supplies us with the date when the title in question WAS CERTAINLY ASSUMED by the daughter and wife of the Ptolemies. I rest my opinion upon the quotation from Plutarch, giving to the second clause a translation somewhat different from Mr. Burgon's; and that for reasons which I respectfully submit to your consideration.

The following is the quotation from Plutarch: Στολὴν ἱερὰν Ἴσιδος ἐλάμβανε, καὶ νέα Ἶσις ἐχρημάτιζε. Plutarch, Vit. Ant. § 54. Cleopatra "wore the sacred robe of Isis, and gave answers to the people as the new [or young] Isis." *Numismatic Chronicle*, Vol. I. p. 200. The latter clause, καὶ νέα Ἶσις ἐχρημάτιζε,—which I should translate, *and called herself the new Isis*,—in order to bear Mr. Burgon's rendering, should be, ὥστε καὶ νέα Ἶσις ἐχρημάτιζε, thus agreeing with a similar phrase in Strabo, ὥστε καὶ βασιλεὺς ἐχρημάτισε. To this I would add, that in Plutarch's time the verb χρηματίζω was almost invariably used in the sense of *appello, voco, nomino*; or in the sense of *nomen accipio, nuncupor, appellor*, corresponding with the Greek terms, ὀνομάζομαι, καλοῦμαι, &c. Quotations might be adduced from the earlier historian, Polybius, in confirmation of this

interpretation; as, for instance, Polyb. Excerpt. Legat. § 93, *τούτῳ διαφέρων ἐκείνου τῷ μὴ διάδημα περιτίθεσθαι μηδὲ χρηματίζειν βασιλεὺς*, *differing from him in this respect, in not assuming the diadem, or calling himself king.* See, also, Polyb. Hist. 5, § 57.

We find the same word thus used in the New Testament, Acts xi. 26, *ἐγένετο—χρηματίσαι πρῶτον ἐν Ἀντιοχείᾳ τοὺς μαθητὰς Χριστιανοὺς*; *and it came to pass that the disciples* WERE CALLED CHRISTIANS *first in Antioch;* and again, Rom. vii. 3, *μοιχαλὶς χρηματίσει*, *adultera nuncupabitur.* In each of these examples, the verb, as in the quotation from Plutarch, is in the active voice.

With such usage before us, you will at once perceive, that we run but little risk of error in asserting, on the authority of Plutarch, that Cleopatra *did call herself*, or *was called*, *νέα Ἶσις*; and that the date of this assumption, of what was looked upon as more than mortal honour, is supplied by the coin in question.

I am, Sir, your's faithfully,

J. B. READE.

XXIV.

IRON MONEY OF KORDOFAN.

[Read before the Numismatic Society 24th January, 1839.]

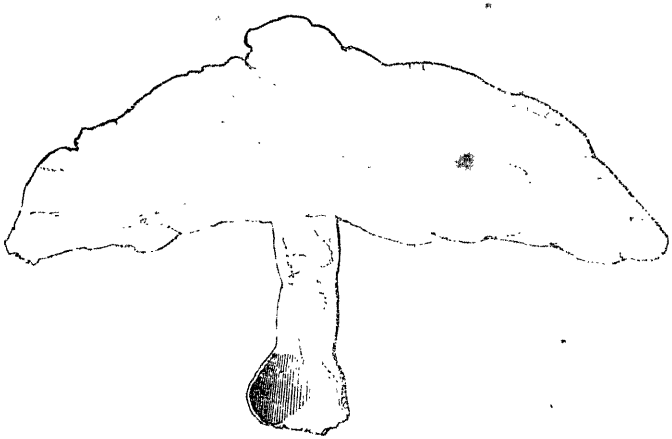
SIR,

IN the course of my travels in the interior of Africa, I visited Kordofan, the capital of which province is Lobeyet, or El Obeyed, where I was not a little surprised to find that the most common money in circulation amongst

the peasantry, was a piece of iron, not unlike the section of a mushroom. This money is called Hasshahshah.

To account for the introduction of this coin, it is necessary to mention a few circumstances connected with the country.

Kordofan is situated in 10° 11′ north latitude, and 29° 2′ east longitude; it was tributary to Darfoor, until taken, fifteen years ago, by the Deftardar Bey, who was despatched by Mahomed Ali Pacha at the head of an expedition. At that time Lobeyet did not contain more than 8,000 or 10,000 inhabitants; when I visited it in the spring of 1837, its population was about 40,000. Whilst tributary to Darfoor, all transactions were conducted by barter; and a grain, called Duku (from which the people make their bread) was the staple commodity of exchange. After Mahomed Ali's government was established, the Egyptian and other coins were introduced; but, as all articles of consumption in the bazaar were so remarkably cheap, the inhabitants found that they had not sufficient small change for the purposes of business; and, as a rich iron ore exists near the surface, and in great quantity, at Wad Dessacki and its neighbourhood, a village about fifty miles east of Lobeyet, the peasants resorted there, and made the iron money to which they have given the name of Hasshahshah. The value of each of these pieces of money is one para, forty being equal to one Egyptian piastre, which, according to the present rate of exchange, is equal to 2½*d.* sterling. They are made without any reference to weight; one, which I possess, weighs 121 grains, whilst another weighs 428 grains, though both are of the same value. They have a type to which they more or less approach.



HASSHAHSHAH OF KORDOFAN.

I am not aware of iron money having been found in any other part of the interior of Africa, except at Loggun, mentioned by Denham and Clapperton, from whose travels I subjoin the following particulars :—

"Loggun, the capital of which country (Kernuk) is on the banks of the Shary, and in 11° 7′ north latitude, is a very populous country. Kernuk has 15,000 inhabitants at least; they speak a language nearly Begharmi. The Shouass are all around them, and to them they are indebted for the plentiful supply of bullocks, milk, and fat, with which the market abounds: these necessaries are paid for by tobes, and blue cotton in stripes, which the Loggun people make and dye of a very beautiful colour. They have, also, a metal currency in Loggun, the first I had seen in Negroland; it consists of thin plates of iron, something in the shape of a tip with which they shoe race-horses; these are made into parcels of ten and twelve, according to the weight, and thirty of these parcels are equal in value to ten rottola, or a dollar.

"The money market, however, of Loggun, has its fluctuations; the value of its 'circulating medium' is settled, by proclamation, at the commencement of the weekly market, every Wednesday; and speculations are made by the Bulls and Bears, according to their belief of its rise or fall. Previous to the Sultan's receiving tribute, or duty, on bullocks or indigo, the delatoo generally proclaims the currency to be below par; while, on the contrary, when he has purchases to make for his household, preparatory to one of their feasts, the value of their metal is invariably increased. The proclamation of the value of the metal always excites an amazing disturbance, as if some were losers, and some gainers, by the variation." [1]

I enclose some specimens of the Hasshahshah for the Museum of the Society, and remain,

Your obedient servant,

ARTHUR T. HOLROYD.

Athenæum Club,
Pall Mall, January 5, 1839.

To the President of the Numismatic Society.

XXV.

COIN OF TITIOPOLIS IN ISAURIA.

ALTHOUGH the numismatics of the nations of the ancient world have not yet been sufficiently studied and comprehended, inasmuch as we have barely (if, indeed, we have) determined the signification of the figures of a few coins;

[1] "Narrative of Travels and Discoveries in Northern and Central Africa in the Years 1822, 1823, and 1824, by Major Denham, Captain Clapperton, and the late Dr. Oudney," 4to. p. 237.

and that, if we except the coins which bear the names of kings or emperors, hardly any monuments of this class, so interesting for history, can be assigned to a positive epoch; yet we are, comparatively, far advanced with regard to the geographical nomenclature.

The immense quantity of pieces comprehended under the general title of Greek coins, that has been published or arranged in cabinets, shows so considerable a series of names of towns and nations, that we cannot entertain the hope of seeing the list greatly augmented hereafter.

The appearance of a coin bearing the name of a town, quite new in numismatics, and almost unknown in history, is, therefore, a fact, the importance of which cannot but be highly appreciated. To publish it is, in the eyes of a numismatist, a real pleasure. I have, therefore, first to thank Monsieur Menche, of Aire, for having kindly confided to me the precious imperial Greek coin which is the subject of this notice, and which chance threw into his possession.

The description is as follows:—

ΚΑΙCΑΡ·ΑΔΡΙΑΝΟC. A barbarously executed head of the Emperor Hadrian, to the right.

Rev.—ΤΙΤΙΟΠΟΛΕΙΤΩΝ. (Of the inhabitants of Titiopolis). Jupiter sitting, to the left, holding in his right hand a patera, his left supporting the hasta.

The reading of the legend is beyond all doubt; what renders its interpretation difficult is, that in most geographical dictionaries the name Titiopolis is not to be found. However, the Dictionary of Ferrari, published by Baudrand, makes mention of this town, and adds these words: *hodie haud memoratur* (at the present day not on record).

It is to this state of oblivion that we must undoubtedly attribute the omission of the name of this town by Messrs. Bishoff and Müller in their very complete Dictionary.

I shall here state all the information I have been able to collect respecting the town of Titiopolis: the many and tedious inquiries in which I have engaged on this occasion, give me reason to think that, for the present, nothing important can be added thereto.

1.—In the list of prelates who assisted at the Council of Constantinople, held in 381, we find the name of Artemius, Bishop of Titiopolis, of the province of Isauria.

2.—The canons of the Council of Chalcedon, in 451, bear the subscription of Mompretus, Bishop of Titiopolis, of the second Cilicia.

3.—The notice of Hierocles, composed in the seventh century, gives the name of Τιτιοπολις among those of the twenty-three towns which had Seleucia for their metropolis.

4.—In 406, at the Council of Constantinople, *in trullo palatii imperatorii*, a bishop of Titiopolis assisted, whose signature is in these terms: Δομετιος ελαχιστος επισκοπος Τιτουπολεως της Ισαυρων επαρχιας ὁρισας υπεγραψα.

5.—Constantine Porphyrogenitus, in his work entitled Περι θεματων, thus writes in relation to the province of Seleucia: "Seleucia is a part of Isauria, which is bounded on the west by Mount Taurus, which the Isaurians inhabit; on the east by the mountains of Cilicia. The heights of Seleucia, and the lands of the interior, are called Decapolis (i. e. Ten Towns). The first among these towns is Germanicopolis, the second Titiopolis, the third Domitiopolis, &c." The Emperor Constantine wrote towards the middle of the tenth century.

6.—Towards the end of the twelfth, the historian of the crusades, William of Tyre, again mentions the town of Titiopolis among the twenty-four suffragan bishoprics of Seleucia. This is the last trace we have of the existence of this town. Whether after this it was destroyed, as were

so many others of Asia Minor, or whether it changed its ancient name for a Turkish or Arabian one, is one of those difficult questions in comparative geography, which very special studies might perhaps solve; but I ought to remark, that the most minute investigations have not afforded me any light upon this subject.

The coin of M. Menche, struck under the reign of Hadrian, that is, between the years 117 and 138, A. D., and about 250 years previous to the Council of Constantinople, at which the Bishop Artemius assisted, proves that under the High Empire, the town of Titiopolis was of some importance; and yet, till the time of William of Tyre, ten centuries elapsed without any historian transmitting the least detail regarding the history or exact position of this town.

As to the origin of its name, I will just remark, without attaching more importance to the observation than such remarks deserve, that, whichever orthography is preferred, Titiopolis, or Titopolis, interpretations of them may be given, which, while equally admissible, are equally liable to the same objection, a total want of proof.

Thus the name Titopolis, compared with that of Domitiopolis, might give reason to believe that the two places were founded by the sons of Vespasian, or, at least, that the names were changed in honour of those princes by two towns belonging to the same province, and actuated by the same interests. Whereas, if we adopt the form Titiopolis, we might seek in it a religious origin, examples of which are before us in Tios of Paphlagonia and Diospolis. *Δημοσθενης δ' εν Βιθυνιακοις φησι, κτιστην της πολεως γενεσθη Παταρον ἑλοντα Παφλαγονιαν, ἡ εκ τθ τιμαν τον Δια, Τιον προσαγορευσαι*.....Demosthenes, in his Bythinian (histories), says, that the founder of the city was Pataros, when he took

Paphlagonia; and that, from the worship of Jupiter, it had received the name of Tios. The figure of Jupiter seen on the coin I have now described, would tend to support this supposition, which would be further confirmed by the constant presence of the attributes of Jupiter on the coins of Seleucia, the *types* being certain indications of a worship of Jupiter prevailing in the metropolis of Titiopolis.

AD. DE LONGPERIER.

[From the *Revue Numismatique*, No. 6, Read before the Numismatic Society, February 2, 1839.]

XXVI.

ON TWO SMALL BRASS COINS OF THE SECOND CONSTANTIUS, WITH THE LETTERS "PLON" IN THE EXERGUE.

[Read before the Numismatic Society, February 28, 1839.]

DEAR SIR,

I AM enabled to lay before you and the Numismatic Society two small brass coins of the second Constantius, which I trust will not be deemed wholly unworthy of consideration.

They belong to a class of Roman coins restricted, I believe, to the Constantine family, bearing, in the exergue, the letters PLON; generally, and with good reason, looked upon, as the insignia of the Metropolitan Officina of Britain.

No. 1, *Obv.*—FL · IVL · CONSTANTIVS · NOB · C. The laureated head of the young Cæsar to the left: front bust with an embroidered paludamentum over the tunic.

Rev.—PROVIDENTIAE · CAESS. The gate of a camp, surmounted by a star. In the exergue, P · PLON.

No. 2, *Obv.*—FLA · CONSTANTIVS · NOB · C. Laureated head and bust, with paludamentum over the tunic, to the right.

Rev.—As the former, with PLON.

The rarity of these coins, as regards the exergual marks, will be obvious on my observing, that in your illustrated essay "On the Coins of the Romans relating to Britain," no specimen of the second Constantius is described or referred to: and in Banduri's extensive list of this Emperor's coins, will be found a vast number of the well-known continental mintages; but only a single instance is given, on which the letters PLON occur; which isolated exception, I presume, from your silence, was considered of such questionable authenticity, as not to warrant its insertion in a work compiled from materials confirmed and sanctioned in their genuineness by personal observation.

The existence of these hitherto unnoticed coins of Constantius being proved, we have good grounds for inferring, that a search into the more extensive cabinets of British numismatics, would be rewarded by a discovery of others of the same æra, as yet overlooked or unpublished.

The Emperor Julian[1] informs us, that when Constantius was appointed by his father, the Emperor Constantine, Governor of Gaul, he had scarcely emerged from boyhood: and his portrait on these two coins, which we may safely say were struck during his tenure of that office, is that of a youth of about fourteen. *Providentiæ Cæsarum* is an adulatory legend of common occurrence on the military coins of this family: but in this instance it may not be inappropriate; for Julian adds, that the youthful Cæsar was, in prudence and foresight, unsurpassed by the most experienced of his age.

Your's, &c.

CHARLES ROACH SMITH.

Lothbury, Feb. 26th, 1839.]

[1] Orat.

XXVII.

MEDALS OF THE PRETENDER.

SIR,

IF the following description of a series of Medals, complimentary and satirical, struck on the birth of the Pretender in the year 1688, and the few remarks offered, be thought of sufficient interest for the *Numismatic Chronicle*, I should feel pleasure in furnishing another series, with few exceptions, from my own collection.

Your's, &c.

W. D. HAGGARD.

Lee Grove, Feb. 5th, 1839.

No. 1.—The young Prince, under the figure of Hercules, who destroys the serpents while in his cradle. By the serpents is understood the hopes of the Protestants. It has round the medal this inscription: MONSTRIS · DANT FUNERA · CUNÆ. "His cradle is the Tomb of Monsters." Exergue, a small crown over two serpents entwined.

Rev.—The Prince of Wales's feathers in a royal crown, with this inscription round it: FULTA · TRIBUS · METVENDA · CORONA. Exergue, 1688. "A crown that has three supporters is formidable."

No. 2.—In the centre is the royal arms surmounted by the royal crown, the whole supported by four cherubs; the upper one, on the left, holds the arms of the Prince of Wales; that on the right, the Prince's feathers, with this inscription round the medal: HONORI · PRIN · MAG · BRIT FRA · ET · HIB · NAT · IO · IVN · 1688. "In honour of the Prince of Great Britain."

Rev.—A naked infant on a cushion—ships in the distance; above are two winged angels with trumpets of fame; the one on the left holds the crown, the other a palm branch; between them is a scroll supported with the word VENIAT. "Let him come."

No. 3.—Busts, to the right, of James II. and his Queen, with this inscription round: IACOBVS · II · M · BRIT · REX MARIA · M · BRIT · REG. "James II., King of Great Britain: Mary, Queen of Great Britain."

Rev.—A map of England, Scotland, and Ireland; on the right is the sun rising in splendour, which dispels the clouds, and enlightens the kingdoms. Two-thirds round the medal is this inscription: ILLAS · FVGAT · RECREAT ISTAS. "He scatters the former and rejoices the latter." In the exergue, OB · NATVM · WALLIÆ · PRINCIPEM · GAB · SILVIVS · EQ · AVR · AD SERDANIÆ · ET · NORW · REG · ABL · EXT · C · C MDCLXXXVIII. "Gabriel Silvius, Knight, Ambassador Extraordinary to the Court of Sweden and Norway, has had this medal struck on the birth of the Prince of Wales, 1688."[1]

No. 4.—Bust to the left crowned with laurel, with flowing hair, and slight drapery: under the bust, a full-blown rose; round it, this inscription: IACOBVS · II · D · G BRITANNIARUM · IMPERATOR. "James II., by the grace of God, Sovereign of Great Britain."

Rev.—The Queen sitting in a state bed, holding in her arms the young Prince, with this inscription: FELICITAS PUBLICA. "Public felicity;" and in the exergue, OB FELICISS · M · BRIT · PRINC · NATIV · 20 · IVN 1688 · IG · VITUS · EQ · B · G · MARC · D ALBYVILLE · ET · SA · ROM · IMP · APUD · BAT ABLEG · EXT · C · C. "Ignatius Vitus, Knight of St. George, Marquis of Albyville and the Holy Roman Empire, Ambassador Extraordinary in Holland, has had this medal struck to celebrate the very happy day of the birth of the Prince of Great Britain, 20th June, 1688."

No. 5.—Bust, to the left, laureate mantle over the shoulders; legend, GIVE THE KING THY JUDGMENTS, O GOD.

Rev.—An angel guarding the infant Prince in a cradle beneath a canopy; legend, AND THY RIGHTEOUSNESS TO THE KING'S SON, PSAL. 27 : 1. Exergue, PRINCE OF WALES, BORN 10 JUNE, 1688. Mr. Hawkes states this medal to be stamped in imitation of engraving, and the workmanship to be very rude.

No. 6.—The figure of Truth, crushing under her foot a serpent.

[1] There is a variety of this medal given in Van Loon.

She holds open the door of a cabinet, emblem of the secret council of the King of England; within the cabinet is seen the Jesuit Peters, chief of this council, thrusting through the top of it a young child, who holds in one hand a royal crown, and in the other a chalice; a ray of light from a cloud falls upon it: in the distance is seen a fleet of ships, all sailing the same way. Round the medal are these words: SIC · NON · HEREDES · DEERUNT. "In this manner heirs will not fail." On the door of the cabinet is this legend: IAC · FRANC · EDUARD SUPPOSIT · 20 · IVNII · 1688. "James Francis Edward, supposititious, 20th June, 1688."

Rev.—The Trojan horse covered with a cloth, on which are these words: LIBERT · CONS · SINE · IURAM · ET · LEG P. "Liberty of conscience, without oaths and without penal laws." On the girth is the word ASTU. "Cunning." In the distance is seen the city of Troy in flames. Round the medal is the inscription, imitated from Virgil, EQUO · NUNQUAM · TU · CREDE · BRITANNE. "Englishmen never trust to this horse."

No. 7.—A female, who, on opening a basket, brings to view a child having the tail of a serpent: there are two other females in the distance, one with uplifted hands, showing surprise; the other seems to run away from the monster. Round the medal, from Ovid, INFANTEMQUE · VIDENT · APPORRECTUMQUE · DRACONEM. "They there find a child with the feet of a serpent."

Rev.—A drooping rose-tree, near the foot of which there appears a new and vigorous shoot. Half round the upper field of the medal is TAMEN · NASCATUR OPORTET · MDCLXXXVIII. "However it may be, it must be born." Exergue, 1688.

Van Loon remarks upon this medal thus: "The basket is that which Pallas had given in charge to the three daughters of Cecrops; and one of them having the curiosity to open the basket, finds Ericthonius a monster, half child and half serpent, which owed its birth to Vulcan, but which came into the world without a mother. This is a happy allusion; the three daughters of Cecrops are the three kingdoms of Great Britain, Ericthonius, the Prince of Wales: the extraordinary birth of the monster that had

no mother, alludes to the birth of the Prince, and the barrenness of the Queen. The drooping rose-tree, on the reverse, is emblematical of the extinguished vigour of the King and Queen."

He further remarks, "These two medals (Nos. 6 and 7) were struck to show that the pretended Prince was a supposititious child; which appears very possible, if the following circumstances be true: it was, at least, so generally thought to be so, that the Prince and Princess of Orange ceased to have him prayed for in their chapel. It was certainly very remarkable, that this child was born just two days after the imprisonment of the Archbishop of Canterbury, who, according to law, ought to have been present on the occasion. It was no less remarkable, that the Princess Ann was at the time absent, being advised to change the air; and that when the Queen was confined, no one was admitted into her room but foreigners, Catholics, and people wholly devoted to the Court, who were all interested in passing for legitimate a successor who, in establishing the Roman Catholic religion, would insure their own good fortune, and would at once dash to the ground the hopes of the Protestants, and the succession established in the person of the Princess of Orange."

XXVIII.

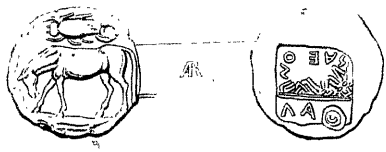
ON THE COINS OF THE THESSALIAN LARISSA.

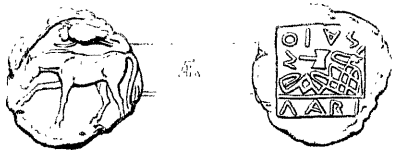
By Samuel Birch, Esq.

[Read before the Numismatic Society, 28th March, 1839.]

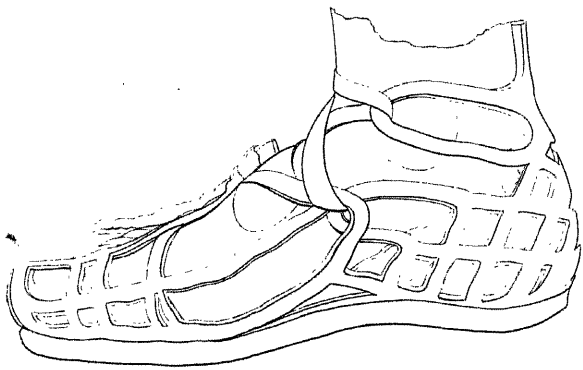
No. 1.—A horse walking to the left, the head inclined; above, a fly, or bee, with closed wings, to the left.

℞. ΛΑ...ΛΑΕΟΝ. A sandal; the whole within an indented square. Æ. size 4.









Drawn & Engraved by Henry Ainsworth

COINS OF LARISSA IN THESSALIA.

No. 2.—Same type.

℞· ΛΑΡΙϟΑΙΟΝ. A sandal, as on the preceding, above, a bipennis; the whole within an indented square. Æ. size 4.

No. 3.—ΑΛΕΥ. Full-face heroic head, in a helmet, with cheek-plates; at the left shoulder a bipennis.

℞· ΛΑΡΙϟΑΙΑ · ΛΛΑ. on the right side of an eagle standing on a thunderbolt. Æ. size 4.

THE types of some of the coins of the Thessalian Larissa appear to have escaped the notice of most medallic writers; and I am not aware that any of the continental numismatists have illustrated the two types of which I have the honour of offering a solution on the present occasion to the Society.

Larissa, situated on the right bank of the river Peneus, in Thessaly, struck, like most of the large towns of Greece, a series of local currency. From the circumstance of its overhanging position, it was called Kremaste "the suspended," probably rather an epithet than a name, since no trace of it is found on any of its autonomous types. By this term, however, it was distinguished from several other cities of the same name, as the Egyptian Larissa in Æolis, and the Syrian on the banks of the Orontes. The scholiast of *Apollonius Rhodius*, book I. line 40, states, That the Thessalian Larissa was under the government of Akrisios, and that it took its name, on the authority of Hellenikos, from Larissa the daughter of Pelasgus; and that it was in the neighbourhood of Gurton in the Pelasgic division of Thessaly. (See *Apoll. Rhod.* l. 40).

The horse, the common Thessalian emblem, appears on the silver and brass currency, in allusion to the fabled production of the horse in Thessaly, which, on account of the champaign nature of the country, bred an animal of far

finer blood than the Peloponnesus; a fact which local vanity impressed upon its circulating medium. The honour, indeed, of subduing this animal to the uses of mankind, was attributed to the inhabitants of Lapithæ; and the myth[1] of the centaurs was supposed to have been founded on a similar fact. On the earliest coins, over the horse, is a bee, or fly, with closed wings: its allusion is not known. The reverses of these types have, in a hollow square, a sandal,[2] whose fore and ancle straps are very complicated; and around the square is ΛΑΡΙΖΑΕΟΝ, or ΛΑΡΙΖΑΙΟΝ. M. Sestini[3] and M. Mionnet have described this object as different ornaments in a hollow square; but an inspection readily shows that it is an ordinary *sandal*, such as is often found on the feet of gods or heroes; and a foot of bronze in the Hamilton collection of the British Museum, affording an excellent illustration of it, a copy of it accompanies the present paper.

This sandal seems to refer to the one which Jason lost when crossing the Anauros, according to the argument prefixed to the *Argonautics of Apollonius Rhodius.* (Ed. Brunck).

Γενόμενος δὲ ἐν τῷ Ἀναυρῷ ποταμῷ (ἔστι δὲ οὗτος Θεσσαλίας) καὶ βουλόμενος παρελθεῖν, εὑρίσκει ἐπὶ τῆς ὄχθης τὴν Ἥραν, γραῒ ὁμοιωθεῖσαν διαπεράσαι μὲν βουλομένην, φοβουμένην δὲ, καὶ ἑστῶσαν. Λαβὼν δὲ αὐτὴν ὁ Ἰάσων ἐπὶ τῶν ὤμων, διασώζει, κατὰ μέσον τοῦ ποταμοῦ το ἓν πέδιλον καταλιπὼν ἐπὶ τοῦ πηλοῦ· εἶτα ἀπέρχεται εἰς τὴν πόλιν μονοπέδιλος καὶ εὑρίσκει πανήγυριν δημοσίαν καὶ θυσιάν ἀγομένην τοῖς θεοῖς παρὰ Πελίου. Θεασάμενος οὖν τὸν Ἰάσονα μονυπέδιλον ὁ Πελίας ὑπομιμνήσκεται τοῦ χρησμοῦ.

"And when he was at the Anaurus, which is a river of

[1] Palæphatus, Lib. De Incredibilibus.

[2] A sandal, or *kothurnos*.

[3] Sestini. Descr. Num. Vet., p. 147, No. 7. Mionnet, Descr. des Med. Grec., tome iii. Supp., p. 160.

Thessaly, on the point of crossing, he finds upon the bank Juno, under the semblance of an old woman, desirous of fording it, but fearful and standing still. Then Jason, taking her upon his shoulders, passes safe through the river, leaving in the middle one sandal in the mud. He then advances to the city, and finds a public assembly, and a sacrifice offered to the gods by Pelias. When Pelias beholds Jason shod with one sandal only, he remembers the oracle."

A repetition of the same occurs in the first book of the *Argonautics*, lib. i., *v.* 5.

> Τοιὴν γὰρ Πελίης φάτιν ἔκλυεν, ὥς μιν ὀπίσσω
> Μοῖρα μένει στυγερὴ τοῦδ' ἀνέρος ὄντιν' ἴδοιτο
> Δημόθεν οἰοπέδιλον, ὑπ' ἐννεσίησι δαμῆναι.
> Δηρὸν δ'οὐ μετέπειτα δεὴν κατὰ βάξιν Ἰήσων
> Χειμεριοίο ῥέεθρα κιὼν διὰ ποσσὶν Ἀναύρου
> Ἄλλο μὲν ἐξεσάωσεν ὑπ' ἴλυος, ἄλλο δ' ἔνερθε
> Κάλλιπεν αὖθι πέδιλον ἐνισχόμενην προχοῇσιν.

"For Pelias had heard a report of this nature, that the stern fate of being subdued by the counsels of that man whom he should behold shod with one sandal only among the people, should hereafter await him. Not long after, agreeably to the divine declaration, Jason, fording on foot the streams of the winter-swelled Anaurus, saved one of his sandals from the mud, but left the other adhering to the bed of the river."

Mention of the same myth is made by other writers; and the stream is called by Hyginus, the Euhenus. No river of such name appears projected upon the maps. If Jason was going to Larissa, or, rather, Iolchos, the capital of the government, from the upper part of Thessaly, it must have been a tributary of the Peneus. From the term πρόχοῃσιν, which implies the place where a river debouches into the sea, it must have been upon the shore; and it may have been one

of those small streams which the winter alone swells into the dignity of a river, as is implied by χειμεριοίο. The boldness of poetical metaphor, however, cannot undergo the same criticism as prose; but the omission of the particular city to which he was journeying, is remarkable.

Jason[4] is further stated to have been dressed in a leopard's skin, and clothed in the attire of a Magnesian. A coin, with a horse on the obverse, having above it a foot shod in a sandal, is mentioned by M. Mionnet;[5] but I cannot find this type in the cabinet of the British Museum. If it be rightly described, it must allude to the same circumstance, and indicate the shod foot of the hero. The myth of Jason, indeed, seems to have been especially cherished in Thessaly, of which district he was the hero, as Perseus of Thrace, and Theseus of Attica: consequently the allusions to his history on the fictile Græco-Italian vases, are of rare occurrence, compared with pictures taken from the Homeric traditions or the Giganto machia; a fact rather to be regretted, as the vases would have offered a contemporaneous evidence to the medals. Four vases, found at Vulci, perhaps allude to some of his exploits, but none to the present subject. Gems,[6] indeed, with Jason, are not uncommon, but the Argonautic expedition seems to have been superseded by the Homeric myths; and the monuments on which it is reproduced are those of a later epoch. The coins next in succession, have on one side a youth wearing a *chlaina*, or tunic, and a Macedonian hat, in shape approaching the *pileus* of the Romans, and consisting of a round crown, with the brim turned upwards, which the figures of Hermes, or of the

[4] See Hyginus Fabul. 12. The river is here termed the Ahenus.
[5] Mionnet, Descr. des Med. Grec. 8vo. 1807, tome ii. p. 15.
[6] Millin. Galer. Mythol. 424. Tassie's Gems, 4to., London, 1791, No. 8634-39.

heroes in their hunting excursions, wear on the vases. It was considered lighter and more convenient than the helmet, and termed the *pilêma* (πίλημα), and is mentioned by Sophocles. Œdipus, in the *Kolonoi*, v. 313 ed. Brunck, as the ἡλιοστερὴς κυνῆ Θεσσαλίς; and Callimachus, (Ad. L. iv., v. 972), mentions the ποιμενικὸν πίλημα, or shepherd's hat. It was probably made of leather. The youth holds by the horns a raging bull, whose furious efforts to escape he successfully restrains, as if in the act of preparing to place his neck under the yoke. This has been supposed by Eckhel to indicate the bulls which are said to have laid the country waste during the reign of Ixion, and to have been subdued by the efforts of the Thessalian youths. Perhaps it is probable that the youth and bull may allude to the preparation by Jason of the brazen-hoofed and iron-horned bulls of Colchis for the plough, as mentioned by the poet of the Argonauts.[7]

> Καὶ ῥ' ὅγε δεξιτεροῖο βοὸς κέρας ἄκρον ἐρύσσας
> Εἵλκεν ἐπικρατέως παντὶ σθένει, ὄφρα πελάσσῃ
> Ζεύγλῃ χαλχείῃ, τὸν δ' ἐν χθονὶ κάββαλεν ὀκλὰξ
> Ῥίμφα ποδὶ κρούσας πόδα χάλκεον.

"And then having seized the end of the bull's horn with his right hand, he drew him by main force, until he made him approach the brazen yoke, and cast him (the bull) down on the ground upon his knees, nimbly with his own foot beating the brazen hoof."

Since Jason was the great Thessalian hero, this may have been used by the town of Larissa in allusion to the power of subjugating these animals, which was deemed honourable by an agricultural race like the Pelasgi: indeed, we are informed by *Euripides Electra*, v. 815, that

[7] Apoll. Rhod. Argon., same ed., b. iii., l. 1305.

Ἐκ τῶν καλῶν κομπεῦσι τοῖσι Θεσσαλοῖς
Εἶναι τόδ' ὅστις ταυρῶν ἀρτέμει καλῶς
Ἵππους δὲ ὀχμάζει.

"He of Thessalia is the most renowned
Who aptest yokes the oxen to the plough,
Or tames the steed."

The attitude[8] of the group is not dissimilar to the idea, nor are the delicate and ingenious applications of mythic subjects from the past to the present, or, from individual to particular instances, unusual in the efforts of Greek art. At all events, a proposed explanation of the contest of Hercules with the Achelous, is totally inadmissible, because, on this subject, the artist has always, on the fictile[9] vases, portrayed the river as a bull with a human face, to distinguish the myth from that of the capture of the Cretan bull, from which it would be otherwise indistinguishable. Neither do any attributes of Hercules appear in the scene; and this hero is rarely depicted as a youth, still less as wearing the Thessalian cap. A figure, similarly attired to the one holding a bull, appears on the obverse of some of the other coins of the city, standing by a steed, and holding in one hand two javelins, as if in the act of parting for the chase. The difficulty of discovering to whom so general a form may allude, compels me again, though reluctantly, to adopt the vague explanation of a hunter; although some local hero is indicated, and the same remark applies to the female heads

[8] Jason is stated in Apoll. Rhod. Argon., b. iii. l. 1322, "to goad the bulls with his spear, as a rustic would do with a Pelasgian goad."

[9] See Millingen (I.) on a vase on this myth. Trans. Roy. Soc. Lit., vol. ii., p. 95—102. Déscription d'un Collection de Vases Peints et Bronzes Antiques, provenant des fouilles d'Etrurie. Par J. de Witte. 8vo., Paris, 1837, p. 48, No. 47. Descrip. of Vases found at Ceres, by Signor Campanari, Tract.

found upon the obverse of the later types, one of which, from its dishevelled hair, has been conjectured to represent the head of Medusa, probably from its full face. In archaic work, the Gorgons were monsters with protruding tongues, as the fictile vases certainly show; and subsequent ages invested them with the traits of beauty. At all events, the connection of Medusa with Larissa is not very apparent; and, as the city was supposed to have been called from Larissa,[10] the daughter of Pelasgus, its eponumous protectress may here be indicated, or the nymph[11] Coronis. The heads on the obverse of the other types, with the hair gathered behind, and bound with the opistrophendone, are, with every degree of probability, those of the Pelasgian Hera, or Juno, under whose auspices the expedition took place. The other types represent a female seated, or standing, holding in her hand a hydria, or water vase. In one instance, the nymph draws water from a fountain, whose jet issues from a lion's mouth. A similar female, in various attitudes, appears on the coins of Terina in Bruttii, with the addition of wings and a caduceus, probably representing Iris, or Nike; and, in this case, the female form may be the *Nike*, (Νικη) apteros, or "wingless Victory," so commonly found on the fictile vases. Mr. Millingen has published a coin with a similar figure playing at *sphaira*, or ball, and he supposes it to represent the nymph Larissa; but the Victory is equally applicable. The brass coins generally present a horse, and the obverse the female head, full-face, supposed to be the Medusa. One type has Thetis riding on a marine horse, and bearing the shield and armour of Achilles, another hero of Thessaly and the Pelasgic race. M. Mionnet

[10] See Apoll. Rhod. schol. loco supra cit.

[11] Ovid, Metamorph., ii., l. 542, "Pulchrior in totô, quam Larissæa Coronis."

assigns this medal, categorically, to the Thessalian Larissa; but the shield is inscribed with the monogram A. The fabrication, however, is different from the usual execution.

The last type, which is in silver, has on the obverse a heroic head, full-face, helmed, and at the side ΑΛΕV, which Mr. Burrel very ingeniously supposes to indicate Aleuas,[12] the primogenitor of the Aleuadæ, a royal family at Larissa, descended from the kings of Thessaly, who first betrayed their country to Xerxes, against the wish of their countrymen. The reverse exhibits an eagle standing upon a thunderbolt. ΛΑΡ · ΙΣΑΙΑ · ΛΛΑ. This coin, which is unpublished in M. Mionnet, belongs to the cabinet of the British Museum.

XXIX.

CAST DIES FOR MEDALS.

[To the Editor of the Numismatic Chronicle.]

Sir,

As your correspondent "Cautus" has done me the honour, in your Number for October, to quote some expressions, as used by me, in reference to Mr. Pistrucci's late invention of a mode of using cast-iron plates, instead of steel dies, for stamping medals and seals; and, as I presume, both from the tone of his paper, and from the title he has assumed, that he is anxious that the public should not be misled or misinformed on the subject, I take the liberty to request your insertion, in the next number of

[12] Diod. lib. xvi. Herodotus vii. Polymnia, c. 6. 130, 172. Pausanias, iii., c. 8, l. 7, c. 10. Ælian Animal, viii. c. 11.

your Chronicle, of the following brief notice of the mistakes which "Cautus" has committed, and for the correction of which I am sure that he will be obliged.

"Cautus" enumerates seven steps in the process alluded to: these are perfectly correct, with the exception of the two last. No steel die is struck from the iron cast; and the medal, or seal (and as yet the experiment has only been made on the latter), is not struck from a *steel die*, but from the *iron plate*.

When Mr. Pistrucci has cast his thin iron plate, of the proper shape according to the relief of the work, and has dressed the back of the plate, nothing more is requisite, before it is subjected to the stamping-press, than to go over the work very delicately and carefully, for the purpose of removing every vestige of the slight sandy impressions which are left in casting; by which operation, the original surface of the artist's model is laid bare, without its being in the slightest degree impaired or altered: this is the work of a few days, or hours, according to the extent of surface to be cleaned, and the intricacy of the work. "Cautus" has certainly been misinformed, either by his eyes, if he has seen the Lancaster Seal, or by his ears, if he has only heard a description of it—if he really believes that it is the result of *engraving*, and that its exquisite softness, &c. were attained by *engraving*.

I never exhibited the iron cast of the Lancaster Seal, nor the seal ("Cautus" says the die) made from it. What I did frequently show to my friends, was a trial and imperfect cast from the unfinished model, and a trial unfinished impression from that cast in copper. This cast had never been worked over by the graver in any of its parts, though it had been partially cleaned from the sand marks, to see and judge of the effect. But the whole of this passage in

"Cautus's" remarks is so very confused and contradictory, that it is quite evident, that he must have been very imperfectly acquainted with the subject on which he writes.

It may perhaps be worth mentioning, as tending to prevent mistakes, that the Lancaster Seal, made according to this new process by Mr. Pistrucci, is not the seal which is preserved in the duchy office in London, but that which is kept and used at Preston in Lancashire: and those who had an opportunity of seeing the seal before it left London, were so far from thinking it the *result of engraving*, as "Cautus" alleged, that it was long before they were convinced, by the testimony of many eye-witnesses, that this silver seal, which was stamped from the cast-iron plate, was not itself a cast.

"Cautus," in enlarging on his doubts of the importance and utility of Mr. Pistrucci's process of stamping with cast-iron plates, alludes to his not having adopted this method in executing the late Coronation Medal; but the reason of this is clear:—the experiment having as yet been applied only to the making of a seal, the occasion was not one—on many grounds, not necessary here to enumerate—on which an artist would have been warranted in attempting another. Mr. Pistrucci might indeed have been tempted to make the experiment upon his second medal of the Queen, which is of the size of his original medal; but he felt himself obliged, in justice to his character as an artist, to engrave it in the usual manner, as the best reply in his power to make to the reports circulated by some persons, that he had totally lost his eye-sight from over-fatigue and anxiety, and to the doubts expressed by others respecting the extent of his knowledge and ability in the art of engraving on steel.

The concluding observation of "Cautus" is perfectly just, "That the attention of our artists ought to be turned most strongly to the subject of casting in iron, because upon it depends entirely the success of the process." Mr. Pistrucci is fully aware, that from want of sufficient practice in a branch of art which he has only learnt accidentally, he is not yet able to imitate the perfection of the best Berlin casting.

I am,

SIR,

Your obedient humble Servant,

W. R. HAMILTON.

XXX.

Welches Volk hat die ersten Münzen geprägt?

Unter den aus dem Alterthume erhaltenen Münzen hat man nicht ohne Grund die griechischen für die ältesten erkannt, und den Griechen die Erfindung des gemünzten Geldes um so mehr zugeschrieben, da uns viele Zeugnisse alter Schriftsteller melden, daß der argivische Beherrscher des Peloponneses, Phidon, auf der Insel Aegina die ersten Münzen habe prägen lassen. Ja, man hat diese Behauptung sogar durch eine Silbermünze mit einem böotischen Schilde und der Aufschrift ΦΙΔΟ (siehe Rasche's Lexicon unter Phidon) bestätigt finden wollen, welche man ihres zierlichen Gepräges und der schon wegen des Φ einem viel spätern Zeitalter angehörenden Aufschrift ungeachtet, keinen Anstand nahm für eine Phidonische Münze zu halten. So wenig jedoch diese Münze irgend eine Beachtung verdient, so verlieren auch alle die vielen Zeugnisse alter Schriftsteller an innerer Haltbarkeit, wenn man sie mit einer viel ältern Nachricht bei Herodot, i. 94, vergleicht. Mit solcher Zuversicht, als Herodot hier von den Lydiern meldet: „Sie sind unsers Wissens die ersten Menschen, die da goldene und silberne Münzen geprägt und gebraucht haben; auch die ersten Krämer waren sie" — hat keiner dem Phidon, welcher nach Herodot, vi. 127, nur die Maße und Gewichte bei den Peloponnesiern einrichtete, die Erfindung des geprägten Geldes zuzuschreiben gewagt. Während nach Pollux, ix. 6, § 83, schon hundert Jahre vor Herodot, Xeophanes aus Kolophon dasselbe behauptete, was noch Eustathius zu Dionysius Perieg., 840, bemerkt — lesen wir das älteste Zeugniß für Phidons Erfindung des Silbergeldes, in Aegina in der parischen Marmorchronik, und in einem Bruchstücke des Ephorus aus Kumä, bei Strabo, viii. p. 358 (549) und 376 (577); vergleiche: Ephori Cumæi fragmenta

(TRANSLATION.)

WHAT PEOPLE FIRST STAMPED MONEY?

[Read before the Numismatic Society, 28th February, 1839.]

AMONG the coins received from antiquity, the Greek have, not without reason, been acknowledged as the oldest; and the invention of stamped money has been the more ascribed to the Greeks, as many testimonies of ancient authors inform us, that Phidon the Argive, ruler of the Peloponnesus, caused the first money to be stamped in the island Ægina. Yes; this assertion has even been supposed to be confirmed by a silver coin with a Bœotian shield and the inscription ΦΙΔΟ (see Rasche's Lexicon under *Phidon*), which some persons have no hesitation in taking for a Phidonian coin, notwithstanding the beauty of its impression: and the inscription, which, on account of the letter Φ, clearly belongs to a much later period. Just as little, however, as this coin deserves any regard, so do the many testimonies of ancient authors lose their authority, when they are compared with a much older piece of information in Herodotus (i. 94). No one has dared to ascribe the invention of stamped money to Phidon (who, according to Herodotus (vi. 127), only regulated the weights and measures among the Peloponnesians) with the same confidence as Herodotus here speaks of the Lydians: "They are the first men in our knowledge, who have stamped and used gold and silver coins; and they were the first traders:" whilst, according to Pollux (ix. 6, § 83), Xenophanes of Colophon, asserted the same thing a hundred years before Herodotus; which Eustathius also observes (apud Dionysius Perieg. 840): we read the oldest testimony for Phidon's invention of silver money in Ægina, in the Parian (marble) Chronicle, and in a fragment of Ephorus of Cumæ, in Strabo viii. p. 358 (549), and 776 (57)—(compare Ephori Cumæi,

v. Marx, p. 107 & 161. Es verliert aber dieſes Zeugniß, welchem die meiſten neuern Schriftſteller gefolgt ſind, bei genauerer Prüfung viel von ſeinem ſcheinbarem Widerſpruche mit dem um zweihundert Jahre ältern, welches auch in vielen äußern Umſtänden ſeine Beglaubigung findet.

Zwar läßt Strabo in der zuletzt angeführten Stelle den Ephorus von den Aegineten faſt dasſelbe behaupten, was Herodot von den Lydiern ſagt; aber es iſt daſelbſt nur von geprägtem Silber die Rede, woran Aegina's Nachbarſchaft reich war, wogegen nach Pollux, ix. 6, § 84, vom lydiſchen Könige Krösus goldene Stateren zu einer Zeit in Umlauf waren, da Griechenland noch arm an Gold war. Denn obgleich Herodot, iv. 152, den Aegineten Soſtratus als den reichſten unter allen Hellenen preiſet, ſo leitet er doch der Aegineten Goldreichthum erſt von der erhandelten Beute aus der Schlacht bei Platää ab, ix. 80, wogegen ſchon Gyges, i. 14, ſo viel Gold und Silber nach Delphi ſandte, daß es daſelbſt einen beſondern Schatz bildete, und bei den älteſten griechiſchen Dichtern, wie Archilochus (Herodot i. 12 und Brunks Analect. T. i. p. 42) und Anakreon, 15, als Beiſpiel des größten Reichthums galt. Da nun auch die pariſche Marmorchronik, p. 25, ep. 31, in einer verletzten Stelle, welche Müller in ſeinen Ægineticis, p. 57, not. d, alſo ergänzt: Φ(ει)δων ὁ Ἀργεῖος ἐδημ(εύσατο μετρὰ, σταθμὰ) ἐσκεύασε, καὶ νόμισμα ἀργυροῦν ἐν Αἰγίνῃ ἐποίησεν, nur von Silbergelde ſpricht, ſo ging Strabo offenbar zu weit, wenn er in der erſten von ihm angeführten Stelle ſchrieb: der Argive Phidon habe die ſogenannten Phidoniſchen Maße und Gewichte, und außer anderm geprägten Gelde auch das Silbergeld erfunden. Ja, die ganze Behauptung von Phidons Geldgepräge löſet ſich in eine einfache Abänderung des Geldgewichtfußes auf, wenn wir bedenken, daß alle die angegebenen

Fragmenta v. Marx, pp. 107 and 161). This testimony, however, which most of the later authors have followed, loses, upon closer investigation, much of its apparent disagreement with that which is about 200 years older, and which derives great credibility from several external circumstances.

Strabo indeed, in the last cited passage, makes Ephorus, affirm of the Æginetæ, almost the same thing which Herodotus says of the Lydians; but the passage relates only to stamped *silver*, in which the neighbourhood of Ægina was rich; while, on the contrary, according to Pollux (ix. 6. 84), golden staters of the Lydian King Crœsus, were in circulation at a time when Greece was yet poor in gold. For, although Herodotus (iv. 152.) reckons the Æginetan Sostrâtus as the richest among all Hellenes, yet he derives the treasures of the Æginetans in gold, first from the booty obtained at the battle of Platæa (ix. 80); whereas, Gyges (i. 14) had already sent so much gold and silver to Delphi, that it formed an especial treasure there, and is reckoned as an example of the greatest wealth, by the more ancient Greek poets, as Archilochus (Herod. i. 12, and Brunck's Analecta T. p. 42), and Anacreon (15). Now, since also the Parian (marble) chronicle (p. 25, Ep. 31), in a mutilated passage which, Müller, in his Æginetica (p. 57, note d), thus restores, Φ(*εί*)*δων ὁ Ἀργεῖος ἐδημ*(*εύσατο μετρὰ* [measures] *σταθμὰ* [weights]) *ἐσκεύασε, καὶ νόμισμα ἀργυροῦν ἐν Αἰγίνῃ ἐποίησεν*, speaks only of silver money, Strabo evidently went too far, when he, in the passage first cited from him, wrote "The Argive Phidon invented the weights and measures, called Phidonian, and invented, besides the stamped money, silver money also." Yes! the whole assertion of Phidon's coining money resolves itself into a simple alteration of the standard metal, if we consider that all the

Erfindungen Phidons mit der Unterwerfung des ganzen Peloponneses in Verbindung ſtanden, dem Phidon nur einerlei Maß und Gewicht, mithin auch einerlei Geldgewichtfuß gab, der bekanntlich ſchwerer war als der attiſche. Denn dazu, daß die Griechen ſchon lange vor Phidon Maße und Gewichte kannten, bedürfen wir nicht einmal des Zeugniſſes von Sophokles, welcher deren Erfindung dem Palamedes zuſchrieb, da wir dieſe ſchon in Homers Gedichten finden. Ja, Syncellus, p. 158 (198), und Iſidorus, Origg. xvi. 25, 2, welche eben dieſe Bemerkung machen, reden nur von einer Maß- und Gewichtsbeſtimmung — wie Plinius, H. N. vii. 57, und Africanus bei Euſeb., p. 37, — und da der Scholiaſt zu Pindars dreizehntem Olympiſchen Siegesgeſange, v. 17 und 27, (nach welchem der Argive Phidon in Korinth die Maße und Gewichte erfand), den Ausdruck gebraucht: *Φείδων ὁ πρῶτος κόψας Κορινθίοις τὸ μέτρον Ἀργεῖος ἦν*, ſo ſcheint des Ephorus Ausdruck, *ἄργυρον πρῶτον κοπῆναι*, nur ſo verſtanden werden zu müſſen wie ihn Salmaſius verſtand — daß Phidon das übliche Stabgeld nur nach ſeiner neuen Gewichtsbeſtimmung bezeichnete, wenn gleich das Etymologicum Magnum unter *ὀβελίσκος* verſichert, der Argive Phidon habe durch ſeine Münze das frühere Stabgeld abgeſchafft, und der argiviſchen Here geweihet. (Vergleiche Euſtathius zu Illiade, B., p. 604). Wie ſehr das Etymologicum Magnum die alte Sage verdrehe, ſieht man unter *Εὐβοϊκὸν νόμισμα*, wo der argiviſche König Phidon an einem von der Pflegerin der Here, Euböa benannten Orte von Argos, Goldmünzen geſchlagen haben ſoll.

Mag daher auch das äginetiſche Geld, wovon Aelian, V. H. xii. 10, ſpricht, noch weit über die Perſerkriege hinaufreichen, und mögen auch die Silbermünzen, welche wir noch von Aegina beſitzen, zu den älteſten Griechenlands gehören; die Angabe der pariſchen Marmorchronik, daß Phidon ſchon

alleged inventions of Phidon were connected with the subjugation of the whole Peloponnesus, to which Phidon gave only uniform weights and measures; and at the same time also a uniform standard for currency, which was clearly heavier than the Attic. For, to prove that the Greeks were acquainted long before Phidon's time, with weights and measures, we do not want so much as the testimony of Sophocles, who ascribed the invention of them to Palamedes; since we find them even in Homer's poems. Yes; Syncellus (p. 158 [198]), and Isidorus (Orig xvi. 25. 2), who make this very remark, speak only of the regulation of weights and measures; and, as the Scholiast on Pindar's 13th Olympic Ode, v. 17 and 27 (according to which the Argive Phidon invented weights and measures at Corinth), uses the expression Φείδων ὁ πρῶτος κόψας Κορινθίοις τὸ μέτρον Ἀργεῖος ἦν, so does the expression of Ephorus ἄργυρον πρῶτον κοπῆναι seem to require to be understood as Salmasius understood it,—that Phidon only pointed out the currency to be used according to his new regulation of weights; although at the same time the Etymologicum Magnum under ὀβελίσκος, asserts "the Argive Phidon, by his coins, abolished the older currency, and dedicated it to the Argive Hexe" (compare Eustathius upon Iliad B. p. 604).—How much the Etymolog. Mag. perverts the ancient traditions, may be seen under Εὐβοϊκὸν νόμισμα where the Argive King Phidon is said to have struck gold coin, at a place of Argos, named Eubœa from the nurse of Hera. It may be then that the Æginetan money, of which Ætian (Varia Historia, xii. 10.) speaks, extends far above the Persian war, and that the silver coins also *of Ægina, which we possess*, belong to the oldest times of Greece. The allegation of the Parian (marble) chronicle that Phidon, so early as the year 895 before Christ, caused the

im Jahre 895 vor Christi Geburt die ersten Silbermünzen in Aegina habe prägen lassen, beruht schon deßhalb auf keinem sichern historischen Grunde, weil man diesen Phidon in so verschiedene Zeiten und an so verschiedene Orte versetzt, daß sich manche versucht fühlten, zwei oder gar vier verschiedene Könige gleiches Namens anzunehmen. Gesetzt aber auch, daß Herodot sich irrte, wenn er, vi. 127, den um die 52ste Olympiade lebenden Leokedes, Phidons Sohn nennt, und daß man nach dem wiederholten Namen Φείδωνος ἀπογόνου ergänzen müsse, um Herodot mit Pausanias in Einklang zu bringen, der, vi. 22, 2, Phidon in die achte Olympiade setzt; immer weicht die mehr mit Pausanias zusammenstimmende Angabe des Ephorus bei Strabo, viii, p. 358 (549), der zufolge Phidon der zehnte Nachkomme des Temenus oder dreizehnte des Herakles war, von der Angabe des Satyrus bei Eusebius, welche, der Marmorchronik näher kommend, Phidon den eilften Nachkommen des Herakles nennt, um ein ganzes Jahrhundert ab. Wenn Ephorus von Phidons Erfindungen nicht sowohl in seiner Geschichte, als in dem Werke über die Erfindungen (siehe Strabo, xiii. p. 622 [924]) schrieb, wo, wie in des Plinius Naturgeschichte, nicht alles chronologisch geordnet war; so erklären sich jene verschiedenen Zeitbestimmungen eben so leicht als des Ephorus Irrthum. Wie sollten aber, wenn Phidon wirklich die ersten Münzen prägte, diese dem Herodot unbekannt geblieben seyn, welcher fast ganz Griechenland forschend durchreisete, und daher auch Phidons Maß- und Gewichtsbestimmungen kennen lernte? Wenn ferner die ersten griechischen Münzen, wie Stieglitz nicht ohne Grund vermuthet hat, eine bloße Nachahmung der ägyptischen Scarabäengemmen in Metall waren; so reicht deren Erfindung nicht wohl über Psammetich hinauf, der nach Herodot, ii. 152, ff. zuerst Freundschaft mit den Joniern und Kariern schloß, und ihnen Ländereien an beiden Ufern des Nils gab. Denn S. Quintino's Ansicht, daß die kleinern Scarabäen mit Königsnamen

first silver money to be stamped in Ægina, rests upon no more certain historical foundation; because this Phidon is referred to so many different times, and in so many different places, that many have felt themselves obliged to assume two, or even four different kings bearing the same name. But, suppose even that Herodotus were wrong, where he (vi. 127) calls Leokedes, who lived about the 52nd Olympiad, Phidon's son, and that we must supply after the name *Φείδωνος, ἀπογόνου,* in order to reconcile Herodotus with Pausanias, who (vi. 22. 2) places Phidon in the 8th Olympiad; still, the allegation of Ephorus, in Strabo viii. p. 358 (543), (which agrees better with Pausanias, and according to which Phidon was the 10th descendant of Temenus, or the 13th of Heracles), differs by a whole century from the allegation of Satyrus in Eusebius, who, coming nearer to the Parian chronicle, calls Phidon the 11th descendant of Heracles. If Ephorus did not write about Phidon's inventions, as well in his history as in the work upon inventions, where, as in Pliny's Natural History, every thing was not arranged chronologically, then these different dates are easily explained as an error of Ephorus. If however, Phidon really stamped the first money, how could this have remained unknown to Herodotus who travelled through almost the whole of Greece, making enquiries, and so became acquainted with Phidon's regulations respecting weights and measures? If further, the first Greek coins, as Stieglitz has not without reason supposed, were simply an imitation in metal of the Egyptian Scarabæan gems, then their invention does not extend beyond Psammetichus who, according to Herodotus (ii. 152), first concluded an alliance with the Ionians and Carians, and gave them settlements on both banks of the Nile. For, S. Quintino's view, that the smaller Scarabæi with kings' names took the place of

bei den Aegyptiern die Stelle der Münzen vertraten, wie auch wohl das thönerne Geld der älteſten Römer, nach Suidas unter Ἀρράρια, Scarabäen von gebrannter Erde waren, erhält Beglaubigung durch die Nachricht im Erykias des Plato oder Aeſchines, daß in Aethiopien geſchnittene Steine ſtatt des Geldes im Gebrauche waren: weßhalb auch wohl Diodor, i. 78, Fälſchungen der Siegel, in den Geſetzen der alten Aegyptier, mit den Fälſchungen der Münzen, Maße und Gewichte auf gleiche Linie ſtellt.

Die Kunſt Edelſteine zu graviren, und Münzſtempel zu ſtechen, kam in Griechenland faſt zu gleicher Zeit auf: denn für das gleich hohe Alterthum der Steinſchneidekunſt ſpricht auch der rohe und alterthümlich ſtrenge Stil mehrer noch erhaltener griechiſcher Gemmen. Ob der Ring des Samiers Polykrates, der nach Herodot, iii. 56, ſchon die Spartaner mit verfälſchtem Gelde betrog, geſchnitten geweſen ſei — wie es Strabo und Pauſanias andeuten — wird nach Herodot, iii. 41, und Plinius, xxxvii. 4, zwar zweifelhaft; aber das Soloniſche Geſetz beugte, nach Diogenes Laertius, i. 2, § 57, ſchon eben ſo ſehr den Betrügereien der Ringſchneider vor, als, nach Demoſthenes, in Timocrat. in fin. Op. i. p. 763 ff., der Verfälſchung gemünzten Silbergeldes. Nach Hermippus war ſelbſt des Pythagora's Vater ein Ringſchneider, und wie die reichen Samier (Herodot vi. 152), deren Elle auch gleiches Maß mit der ägyptiſchen hatte (Herodot ii. 168), mit Aegypten in Verkehr ſtanden, beſchreibt Herodot beſonders auch, iii. 39. Die unförmlichen Χελώνια der Aegineten verrathen allerdings noch mehr Aehnlichkeit mit den ägyptiſchen Scarabäen, als die böotiſchen Münzen mit dem Schilde, oder die korynthiſchen mit dem Pegaſus; aber die Bienen auf den Münzen von Epheſus mögen den lydiſchen Nachbildungen ägyptiſcher Scarabäen urſprünglich noch näher gekommen ſein. Mögen alſo in Aegina immerhin die älteſten Münzen des eigentlichen

coins among the Egyptians, (as also that the clay money of the old Romans according to Suidas, under Ἀσσάρια, were Scarabæi of baked clay), receives credibility from the information in the Eryxias of Plato or Æschines, that engraved stones were in use in Æthiopia instead of money; for which reason, also, Diodorus (i. 78) places forgeries of seals on the same footing with forgeries of coins, weights, and measures in the laws of the ancient Egyptians.

The art of engraving precious stones, and of cutting dies for coin, sprung up in Greece almost at the same time; for the rough and severe antique style of several Greek gems yet preserved, speaks also for the equally high antiquity of the art of engraving on stone. Whether the ring of the Samian Polycrates, who, according to Herodotus (iii. 56) cheated the Spartans with adulterated money, was engraved, as Strabo and Pausanias imply, is certainly doubtful, according to Herodotus (iii. 41), and Pliny (xxvii. 4). But even the law of Solon made provision, according to Diogenes Laertius (ii. § 57), just as much against the frauds of the ring engravers, as, according to Demosthenes, in Timocrates (*in fine Op.* i. p. 763), the falsifying of coined silver money. According to Hermippus, even the father of Pythagoras was a ring engraver. And Herodotus particularly describes (iii. 39) how the rich Samians (Herodotus iii. 152), whose ell was of the same measure as the Egyptians (Herodotus ii. 168), had a commercial intercourse with Egypt. The misshapen χελώνια (tortoises) of the Æginetæ, betrayed certainly a still greater resemblance to the Egyptian Scarabæi, than the Bœotian coins to a shield, or the Corinthian to Pegasus. But the bees upon the coins of Ephesus, may have originally come still nearer to the Lydian imitations of the Egyptian Scarabæi. Still, then, the oldest coins of Greece itself may have been

Griechenlands geprägt seyn, noch älter waren die Goldmünzen der Lydier. Nach Pollux machten auch die Naxier Anspruch auf die Erfindung geprägten Geldes; doch wird dieses eben so wenig beglaubigt, als des Lucanus (Phars. vi. 402) Nachricht, daß ein alter thessalischer Fürst, Jonos, das erste Metallgeld geschlagen habe. Andere Sagen — wie wenn Plutarch im Leben des Theseus (24, 3) versichert, Theseus, nach andern gar Erichthonius, habe Geld mit dem Bilde eines Stiers geschlagen — widerlegt Homer, welcher (Ilias vii. 472, xxiii. 702: Od. i. 430) nur Tauschhandel kennt. Noch in Drakons Gesetzen war (nach Pollux ix. 61) ein δεκάβοιον als Strafe bestimmt, was sich kaum so erklären läßt, wie das Etymologicum Magnum unter ἑκατόμβη, und auch Eustathius zu Homers Ilias, ii. 479 (vergl. xxi. 79), bemerkt: man habe die Münzen βόες genannt, weil die alten Athener das Bild eines Stieres auf die Münzen geprägt hätten. Weit richtiger schreibt Hesychius: Δεκάβοιον ἀριθμὸς πόσος καὶ σταθμὸς, ἐφ' ᾧ τετύπωτο βοῦς, mit einem Zusatze, welcher den Ursprung der Sage von Phidons Münzenprägen aufklärt: ἔνιοι δὲ Δηλίων τὸν βοῦν νόμισμα εἶναι φασίν.

Wie geneigt die alten Schriftsteller waren, bloße Geldgewichte in Münzen zu verkehren, ersieht man auch daraus, daß Xenophon (de republ. Laced. vii. 5) das große Eisengewicht, bei dessen Besitze sich die Lakedämonier (nach dem Eryxias des Aeschines, ii. 24) reich glaubten, ein νόμισμα nennt; Nikolaus von Damaskus aber (bei Stobäus, p. 293, ed. Gern.) sogar durch Verwechselung dessen, was im Eryxias vom punischen Gelde gesagt wird — wie Seneca, de beneficiis, v. 14, extr. — in ledernes Geld umwandelt. Daher kam es denn auch, daß Plutarch im Leben des Lykurgus (cap. 9), wie anderwärts, sich nicht zu schreiben scheuete, Lykurgus habe den frühern Gebrauch der Gold- und Silbermünze abgeschafft, und nur eisernes Geld zu gebrauchen gestattet, ungeachtet der Argive Phidon, selbst nach der frühesten

stamped in Ægina, though the gold coins of the Lydians were still older. According to Pollux, the Naxians also laid claim to the invention of stamped money; but this is as little credible as Lucan's statement (Pharsalia vi. 402), that an ancient Thessalian prince, Ionos, stamped the first metal coins. Other traditions, as when Plutarch, in the life of Theseus (xxiv. 3.), asserts that Theseus, or, according to others, even Erichthonius, stamped money with the image of a bull, are contradicted by Homer, who (*Iliad* vii. 472; xxiii. 702: *Od.* i. 430) is acquainted only with barter. Again, in Draco's laws, a δεκάβοιον (according to Pollux ix. 61) was appointed as a punishment, which can hardly be explained; as the *Etymol. Mag.* under ἑκατόμβη, and Eustathius upon Homer, *Il.* ii. 479. (compare xxi. 79), observe, that the coins were called *βόει*, because the ancient Athenians had stamped the image of a bull upon their coins. Hesychius writes much more correctly, Δεκάβοιον ἀριθμὸς πόσος καὶ σταθμὸς ἐφ' ᾧ τετύπωτο βοῦς, with an addition which explains the origin of the tradition of Phidon's coinage, ἔνιοι δὲ Δηλίων τὸν βοῦν νόμισμα εἶναι φασίν.

How prone ancient writers were to convert mere weights of money into coin, is evident also from this, that Xenophon (*de Repub. Laced.* vii. 5) applies the term νόμισμα to the great iron weight, by the possession of which, the Lacedemonians, according to the Eryxias of Æschines (ii. 24) thought themselves rich. Nicolaus of Damascus, however, in *Stobæus* (p. 293, *Ed. Gern*), by a perversion of what is said in the Eryxias of Punic money, as Seneca *de Beneficiis* (v. 14. extr.) changes it into leather money. Thence, also, it came that Plutarch, in the Life of Lycurgus (cap. ix), as elsewhere, did not hesitate to write "Lycurgus abolished the ancient use of gold and silver coin, and appointed only iron money for use;" notwithstanding that the Argive

Zeitbestimmung der pariſchen Marmorchronik, nur 15 Jahre vor Lykurgus ſeine Geldveränderung vornahm. Nach ſolchen unbegründeten Behauptungen mag man nun beurtheilen, was man von Plutarchs Verſicherung zu halten habe, wenn er in ſeinen Fragen über römiſche Gebräuche ſchreibt, daß die Römer außer den alten Münzen mit doppeltem Janushaupte und Schiffstheile, — um welcher willen Macrobius, i. 7, ſogar den Janus, wie Iſidor, Origg. xvi. 183, den Saturnus die erſte Kupfermünze prägen ließ — auch noch andere Münzen gehabt hätten, deren Gepräge ein Rind, Schaf oder Schwein geweſen ſei. Varro, R. R. ii. 1, 9, behauptet freilich dasſelbe, und Plinius ſchreibt ſogar in ſeiner Naturgeſchichte, xviii. 3, ganz beſtimmt: "Servius Rex ovium boumque effigie primus æs signavit," ungeachtet noch Niemand dergleichen Münzen gefunden hat, und Plinius, xxxiii. 13, ſelbſt nur einfach meldet: "Servius Rex primus signavit æs: antea rudi usos Romæ Timæus tradit;" obwohl mit dem Zuſatze: "Signatum est nota pecudum, unde et pecunia appellata." Allein beide Schriftſteller deuten zugleich an, was dieſen Glauben veranlaßte, weil man einem alten Herkommen zufolge die Goldſtrafen nach Schafen und Rindern zu beſtimmen pflegte; und was die Benennung des Geldes bei den Römern betrifft, ſo ſagt Columella (R. R. vi. præfat.) ganz richtig: Nomina quoque *pecuniæ* et *peculii* tracta videntur a *pecore*, quoniam id solum veteres possederunt, et adhuc apud quasdam gentes unum hoc usurpatur divitiarum genus. Vergleiche Cicero, de republ. apud Nonium s. v. *Pecuniosus*.

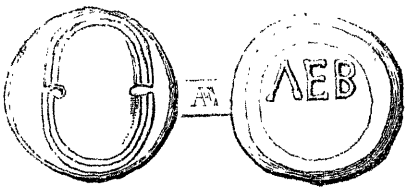
G. F. Grotefend.

Nachſchrift. — Das Reſultat des Ganzen iſt, daß obgleich die Römer zuerſt Kupfer, dann Silber, und zuletzt Gold prägten, die Lydier umgekehrt zuerſt, ungefähr ſiebenhundert Jahre vor Chriſti Geburt, Gold, dann die Aegineten, noch vor Solon, auch Silber, ſo wie die Römer, ſeit Servius Tullius Kupfer münzten.

Phido, even according to the earliest date of the Parian (marble) chronicle, made his alteration in the currency only fifteen years before Lycurgus. From such unfounded assertions, we may now decide what confidence ought to be placed in Plutarch's assertion, when he writes, in his questions about Roman customs, that the Romans, besides the old coins with a double Janus' head, and part of a ship (on account of which Macrobius [i. 7], even made Janus, as Isidorus Origines [xvi. 183], made Saturn, to have stamped the first copper coins), had also other coins on which the impression was an ox, a sheep, or a hog. Varro, indeed, (*de R. R.* ii. 1. 9) affirms the same thing; and Pliny, in his Natural History (xviii. 3), even writes quite positively, "Servius Rex ovium boumque effigie primus æs signavit" notwithstanding that as yet, no one has found any such coins; and Pliny himself (xxxiii. 13) only announces simply, "Servius Rex primus signavit æs; antea rudi usos Romæ Timæus tradit;" adding "Signatum est nota pecudum unde et pecunia appellata." But both authors, at the same time, hint what was the occasion of this belief; because, according to an old custom, pecuniary fines were wont to be paid by sheep and oxen. And, as far as concerns the naming of the money among the Romans, Columella (*R. R.* 6. *præf.*) says quite correctly, "Nomina quoque *pecuniæ* et *peculii* tracta videntur a *pecore*, quoniam id solum veteres possederunt, et adhuc apud quasdam gentes unum hoc usurpatur divitiarum genus." Compare Cicero de Rep. apud Nonium, sub voce *Pecuniosus*.

G. T. GROTEFEND.

P. S.—The result of the whole is, that although the Romans stamped copper first, then silver, and at last gold, the Lydians, on the contrary, first, about B. C. 700, stamped gold coin; then the Æginetæ, before Solon's time, stamped silver coin; and the Romans copper, after Servius Tullius.



XXXI.

COINS OF LEBADIA AND OF ZACYNTHUS.

HAVING recently arranged the cabinet of the Chevalier de Horta, we were much gratified on finding several coins of more than usual interest. Among these there is one which cannot fail to engage the attention of numismatists. An accurate representation of it is given above.

Having submitted this curious piece to the experienced eye of Mr. Burgon, we shall proceed to avail ourselves of the remarks suggested to that gentleman by its examination. The coin may be thus described:—

Obv.—Bœotian shield.

℞.—ΛΕΒ occupying the field of the coin.

The type and inscription on this coin are alone sufficient to show that it must be attributed, beyond all doubt, to Lebadia, a Bœotian town mentioned by several ancient writers. Pausanias gives us an interesting account of Lebadia, and informs us that the shield of Aristomenes was preserved there.[1] It is also mentioned by Ptolemy, Strabo,

[1] Lib. ix., c. xxxix.

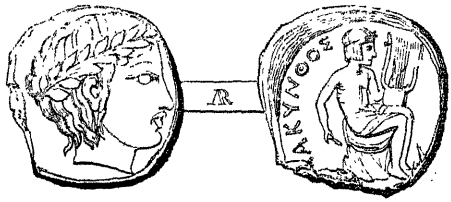
Pliny, and other writers, from whom we learn that it was situated near Mount Helicon, and was famous for the oracle of Jupiter Trophonius. Although it was evidently a place of some note, no coins of this town have hitherto been discovered; the present specimen, therefore, becomes doubly interesting, inasmuch as it is not only unique, but authorises us to add a new town to numismatic geography.

No Bœotian coin of this type has, we believe, been yet published, except one of Orchomenus, with the inscription, ΟΡΧ[2]; but there are two coins in the cabinet of Mr. Burgon exactly of a similar class.

1. *Obv.*—Bœotian shield.
 Rev.—TAN occupying the field of the coin.
2. *Obv.*—Bœotian shield.
 Rev.—ΘΕΣ occupying the field of the coin.

It is worthy of remark, that these two coins are not only of the same type, but of the same age, size, style of work, mode of minting, and metal, as the coin of Lebadia, and probably of that of Orchomenus, described by Mionnet also. It is, therefore, very probable, that future researches and discoveries may bring to light similar coins of other Bœotian cities; and a careful examination into the history of Bœotia, from one hundred to two hundred years before Christ (which Mr. Burgon considers to be the age of these coins), might furnish us with the precise event to which the striking of them is to be referred; their appearance indicating some *Bœotian confederation or association*, which, according to the present state of our knowledge, as derived from the coins, seems confined to the cities of Lebadia, Orchomenus, Thespiæ, and Tanagra.

[2] Mionnet, Vol. II. p. 106, No. 79.



The next coin, which is here faithfully represented, is of Zacynthus:—

Obv.—Laureated head of Apollo? to the right, with short hair.

℞.—[Z]AKYNΘOΣ. Naked seated figure (Zacynthus) playing on a lyre, looking to the right.

This rare and interesting coin of the Island of Zacynthus (the modern Zante), offers an example of an inscription, which doubtless is to be understood as referring to the personage represented. Without noticing the fabulous history of Zacynthus, Pausanias furnishes us with sufficient information to enable us to assume, that it is probably as founder of the Acropolis of the town of Zacynthus, in the island of the same name, that he appears upon the coin.

The inscription being very clear and well defined on this specimen, gives reason to suppose that the coin published by Pellerin,[3] with ZAKYNΘOY, may perhaps have been misread, owing to defective preservation, such variations in the style of the inscription being of rare occurrence on coins of the same place: and it is worthy of remark, that the coins of Cephalenia have, on the reverse, the hero

[3] *Recueil*, Vol. III. p. 40; Plate xciii.; No. 1.

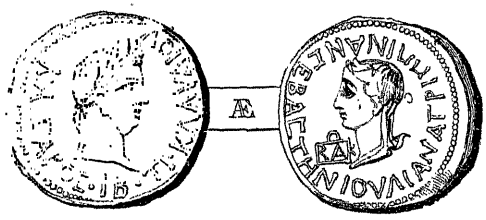
Cephalus, with the inscription, ΚΕΦΑΛΟΣ[4], thus showing a similarity of motive in the type and style of inscription on the coins of both islands.

Among the slight notices of the personage Zacynthus, we do not find, on ancient authority, that he was a poet; but the present specimen authorises such an opinion, Zacynthus being represented in a similar manner to Homer and other poets, on all kinds of ancient monuments. The figure on this coin wears a diadem, and is holding the plectrum in the right hand, while he modulates the strings of the lyre, posed on his knee, with the left. It is difficult to pronounce with certainty on what he is sitting; it may be a rock, partly covered with drapery, or with the mantle of the poet; but it also resembles a kind of crescent-shaped seat.

Mr. Burgon observes, that the weight of this coin is 164 grains; but, as a small projection from the edge has been cut off, it may be supposed to have lost from 15 to 20 grains, and is probably a didrachm of the Æginetan talent, that standard having been very generally adopted by the islands of Greece.

The style of workmanship, as well as the style of minting, observable on this coin, are to be attributed to an early period. The round die with which the reverse was struck, is as old as the square die on many of the Athenian Tetradrachms; and the coin was probably minted above 500 years before Christ.

[4] De Bosset's "Essai sur les Médailles Antiques des Isles de Céphalenie et d'Ithaque." Pl. i., No. 1.



A third coin, from the same collection, differs, we believe from any yet published :—

Obv.—TI · KΛΑΥΔΙΟΣ · ΚΑΙΣΑΡΟΣ · IB. (year 12). Laureated head of Claudius.

R.—IOYΛIAN · ΑΓΡΙΠΠΙΝΑΝ · ΣΕΒΑΣΤΗΝ. [The people of the Bosphorus worship] *the Empress Julia Agrippina.* Head of Agrippina: before it, in the field, a monogram, composed of the letters BA · KΩ. for Βασιλεως Κωτυος.

This interesting coin, by the legend of the reverse, shows that the Empress had divine honours paid to her by the people of the Bosphorus, who place the heads of the Emperor and Empress on the current coin, while the name of their own prince is expressed simply by a monogram.

XXXII.

NUMISMATIC PUBLICATIONS.

No. 1.

MONNAIES INCONNUES DES EVEQUES DES INNOCENS, DES FOUS, ET DE QUELQUES AUTRES ASSOCIATIONS SINGULIÈRES DU MEME TEMPS, RECUEILLIES ET DÉCRITES, par M. M. J. R. D'AMIENS; avec des Notes, et une Introduction sur les Espèces de Plomb, le Personnage de Fou, et les Rebus dans le Moyen Age, par M. C. L.—8vo. Paris, 1837. London: Kernot.

THE Money of Fools! The Money of Fools! Verily this sounds like a contradiction. Where is the numismatic

enquirer who ever heard of fools having money? Where is the man of the world who ever heard of people having money who were considered fools? Such was the very natural exclamation which involuntarily escaped from us, on first glancing at the title page of this curious volume.

A nearer examination of its contents, however, while it has left unanswered the second, or ethical, portion of our enquiry—Whoever heard of people who had money, and were, by this gold-loving world, accounted as fools?—has demonstrated to us most satisfactorily, what we believe to be as yet unknown to the majority of our readers, the existence of a number of pieces which are fully entitled to be considered as Monnaies des Fous.

These pieces are of lead; and the discovery of a considerable quantity of money formed of this material, is, independently of the peculiar object for which such money had been coined, an object of considerable interest. Leaden money[1] forms, in fact, an exception in the numismatic history of Europe; and so rarely has it appeared, and then under such peculiar circumstances, as almost to exclude it from being classed as "money," according to the acceptation in which that term is generally received.

It was in the winter of 1832, that M. Rey of Amiens, the author of this volume, remarked, among a number of old coins offered to him for sale, some leaden pieces of a very peculiar formation, and of the origin of which he was then ignorant. They had mostly come from the cabinet of a collector who was in the habit of pur-

[1] The existence of leaden money among the ancients was, for a long time, a disputed point; but the discovery during the last century of a number of genuine antique leaden coins—the *nummi plumbei* of Plautus and Martial, solved all doubts upon the subject.—See *Jobert, Science des Medailles.* Tome i., p. 64, et seq.

chasing from the workmen all the curiosities they met with in pulling down the old buildings of the neighbourhood; and whose collection, after some years spent in its formation, had eventually been dispersed.

In the hope of meeting with other pieces of a similar character, M. Rey visited several collections which had been formed in a similar manner; and, by the kindness of their proprietors, he eventually became the possessor of about one hundred such pieces, in a very good state of preservation.

He soon perceived that they had been struck in celebration of those extraordinary Saturnalia of the middle ages, the Fête des Innocens or des Fous; and probably to preserve the memory of such events. This discovery, according to our author, teaches us a fact hitherto unknown, namely, that the Fool-bishops, of three or four centuries since, not content with burlesquing, in the most outrageous manner, the episcopal office and its most sacred duties, claimed *the right of coining money!* From this opinion, however, M. Lebec, the author of the Introduction to the volume, dissents, and, as it seems to us, with very good reason. There was, in fact, no right in the case; they were enabled to do so, either because the practice was tolerated as forming part of a ceremonial which had nothing serious in it, or because the mock ecclesiastics should be thereby enabled to parody, to the fullest extent, the authority of those whose names, vestments, and attributes, they had for a time assumed.

The researches of Savaron, Des Lyons, du Tilliot, and M. Lebec himself, have shown that the mummeries which were for so long a period annually exhibited within the walls of all the churches in France, between Christmas-day and the Epiphany, were derived from the Saturnalia with

which the Romans welcomed in the new year; and our author remarks, that the discovery of these leaden medals, struck in commemoration of the Feast of Fools, furnishes an additional argument in support of this opinion, inasmuch as such pieces are themselves an imitation of those which were in circulation among the Romans during the Saturnalia.[2]

At such times, devoted as they were to folly of every kind, games of hazard formed a prolific source of amusement; but as a law, mentioned by Lucian, prohibited the use of the current coin of the time for such a purpose, means were adopted to supply its place. Augustus used, on such occasions, to make presents to his acquaintances, of old or foreign coins; but, few participating in his bounty, recourse was generally had to leaden tokens. Besides, as every thing ridiculous tended to heighten the enjoyment of the fun, a custom arose of making presents of most insignificant value, such as copper and leaden counters, little figures of baked clay—the consumption of which was so great, that the fair for the disposal of these "*sigillæ*," as they were called, lasted several days!

One of the principal ceremonies of the Saturnalia consisted in the electing, in every house, by choice or by lot, a king from among the slaves, which king distributed among his subjects leaden tokens, representing the figure, or emblem, of his master, the deity whom he most delighted to honour, or such jests and pleasantries as were best calculated to add to the merriment of the day.

These facts are proved by several such monuments of antiquity, which have been preserved to the present times.

[2] Sigillariorum Celebritas—Sigilla venalia.—Saturnalibus talium commerciorum celebritas cæpta septem occupat dies—Macrobius *Saturnaliorum*, lib. i., cap. x. et xi.

Pierre Seguin first published, in 1684 (*Selecta Numismata Antiqua*), a leaden coin, which appeared to be of the age of the Emperor Claudius, and on which was engraved the joyous cry of the Saturnalia, "IO · SAT · IO." Baudelot de Dairval, in his *Utilité des Voyages* (t. ii. 1686), has inserted a dissertation on this medal, and mentions several of a similar character. Ficoroni, who collected a number of leaden pieces (*I. Piombi Antichi*, 1740), looks upon them as having been struck at the time of the Saturnalia;[3] an opinion which coincides with that expressed by Caylus in his *Recueil d'Antiquités*, tome iii. p. 288.

If the kings of the Saturnalia thus imitated, as far as in them lay, the kings and emperors who, on their accession, distributed their *largesse*, the bishops of the innocents imitated also the bishops whose places they had assumed, the more powerful of whom enjoyed the right of coining money, and were accustomed to make a distribution of it on their first entrance into the cathedral of their diocese.

But we must desist; the work is one which will scarcely admit of analysis, and which is the less necessary, as the novelty of the subject will no doubt tempt many of our readers to examine it for themselves; we can cordially recommend it to them, not only for the light which it throws directly upon the very curious branch of numismatic lore to which it is devoted, not only for the admirable and spirited manner in which the medals are engraved, but also for the abundance of amusing information which it contains on the subject of the mock religious feasts when these

[3] See more particularly, in the second part (Tab. vii., No. 20.), one with the inscription VAL · SATVRNALIA, "*Valeant Saturnalia*;" and another (Tab. xv., No. 1.), almost like it, described by Seguin.

medals were struck, on the fashion of keeping fools and jesters, on the rebuses of the middle ages, and many other cognate matters, illustrative of the history of life and manners.

No. 2.

ATLAS DE GÉOGRAPHIE NUMISMATIQUE, POUR SERVIR A LA DESCRIPTION DES MÉDAILLES. Par T. E. MIONNET.—Paris. 4to. 1838.

THE services rendered to numismatic science by the Chevalier Mionnet, are appreciated and acknowledged by the numismatists of Europe. The present Atlas is intended as an accompaniment to his well-known "Description de Médailles Antiques Grecques et Romaines," and, as such, will be welcomed by all engaged in the study of ancient coins. The work comprises seven plates, as follow:—Plate I. Orbis Veteribus Notus. II. Hispania. III. Gallia. IV. Thracia, Mœsia, Sarmatia Europæa. V. Italia Inferior, Græcia. VI. Asia Minor. VII. Africa, Egyptus, Judæa. These plates are executed by Mons. A. H. Dufour, and are remarkable for their neatness and beauty. Much pains have been taken in settling disputed points in ancient geography, left undecided by Eckhel and Sestini; and the author congratulates himself on the addition of a new town, namely, *Mirobriga*, in Lusitania, communicated by the Viscount de Santarem, who possesses an unique coin of that municipality. We have only to regret that the discovery of the unique coin of *Lebadia*, which appears in our present number, came too late to be made available.

The cities, as they appear on the maps, are thus distinguished:—A *tablet* denotes those who enjoyed their own laws; the *cap of liberty* denotes the free cities: *two hands joined* mark the alliances: the metropoles are indicated by *a fortified place;* the *first* by a different kind of building; those which styled themselves Neocori, by a *temple with a priest standing near.* Those who claimed the right of asylum, by *an open temple.* The cities with ports, by a *vessel.* The colonies, by *a yoke of oxen;* and the municipalities, by a *ploughshare.*

An alphabetical list of the cities of antiquity of which coins are known, should have accompanied this Atlas, which, we feel confident, will add to the reputation of its indefatigable projector.

MISCELLANIES.

ROMAN COINS FOUND IN THE SANDHILLS, OR DOWNS, NEAR DEAL, IN 1832.

(*Now in the possession of W. H. Rolfe, Esq., of Sandwich*).

JULIA MAMAEA

P. M. Tr. P. II. Cos. P. P.[1]

VALERIANUS

Felicitas Augg.

Oriens Augg.

GALLIENUS

Aeternitas Aug.

Apollini Cons. Aug., (centaur with bow and arrow).

Idem (centaur with a globe and lyre).

Idem (a griffin).

Æquitas Aug.

Dianæ Cons. Aug.

Diana Felix.

Felicit Publ.

Felici Aug.

Fides Milit.

Fides Militum.

Impx...P...V.

Jovi Cons, Aug. (a goat)..

Fortuna Redux.

Jovi Conservat.

REVERSES.

Jovi Propugnat.

Jovi Ultori.

Indulgentia Aug.

Liberal Aug.

Libero P. Cons. Aug. (panther).

Libertas Aug.

Laetitia Aug.

Mars. Ultor.

Marti Pacifero.

Neptuno Cons. Aug.

Oriens Aug.

Pax Aeterna Aug.

Pax Aug.

Pax Publica.

Pietas Aug.

Provi Aug.

Provid. Aug.

Pudicitia IIIII.

Salus. Aug.

Securit Perpet.

Secur. Tempo.

Securit. Aug.

Soli Cons. Aug. (Pegasus).

Victoria Aet.

[1] This is one of the coins referred to in the *Numismatic Chronicle*, p. 148; the reverse being taken, without regard to applicability of legend, from a coin of Alexander Severus.

Victoria Aug.
Uberitas Aug. (varieties).
Virtus Augusti.

SALONINA
Fecunditas Aug.
Fortuna Redux.
Juno Conservat.
Junoni Cons. Aug.
Juno Regina.
Pudicitia.
Venus Victrix.
Vesta.

SALONINUS
Consecratio (altar).

AURELIANUS
Provident Aug.
Securit Aug.

POSTUMUS
Concord Equit.
Cos. IIII.
Fortun. Aug.
Moneta Aug.
Pax Aug.
P. M. Tr. P. Cos. II. P.P.
Virtus Aug.
Imp. X. Cos. V.
Virtus Equit.
Providentia Aug.
Herc. Pacifero.
Pax Equitum.
Victoria Aug.

VICTORINUS
Aequitas Aug. On the obverse —*Imp. C. Pi. Victorinus.* [2]
Consecratio (an eagle).
Invictus.
Pax Aug.
Pietas Aug.
Providentia Aug.
Salus Aug. (2 types).
Virtus Aug. (2 types).

MARIUS
Concord. Milit.
Saec. Felicitas.

CLAUDIUS GOTHICUS
Aequitas Aug.
Annon. Aug.
Annona Aug.
Consecratio (an altar).
Idem (an eagle).
Felic. Tempo.
Felicitas Aug.
Fides Exerci.
Fides Milit.
Fides Militum.
Genius Aug.
Genius Exerci.
Iovi Statori.
Iovi Victori.

[2] This of Victorinus is totally unlike the rest—the nose turns up, and the countenance resembles strongly that of Postumus.

Libert. Aug.
Mars Ultor.
Marti Pacifero.
Pax Aug.
P. M. Tr. P. II. Cos. PP.
Provid. Aug.
Providen Aug.
Salus Aug.
Spes Aug.
Spes Publica.
Securit Aug.
Victoria Aug.
Virtus Aug.

TETRICUS

Comes Aug.
Fides Militum.
Hilaritas Augg.
Laetitia Augg.
Pax Aug.
Princ. Invent.
Salus Aug.
Spes Aug.
Spes Publica.
Victoria Aug.
Virtus Augg.

TETRICUS JUNIOR

Comes Aug.
Pax Aug.
Pietas Aug.
Pietas Augustor.
Princ. Ivvent.
Spes Publica.

UNITED SERVICE MUSEUM.—We are gratified to learn, by the Report just issued, that much attention has been paid by the Council of this Institution to the formation of a Collection of Coins and a Numismatic Library. Some of the rarest and most valuable ancient coins have been brought to this country by our naval officers; and this fact alone would be a sufficient reason for the establishment of a cabinet in that thriving Institution. In the Report, allusion is made "to the collection of Greek Coins, not only rare, but also of great intrinsic value, so liberally presented by Commander F. W. Rooke, R. N." The Report also states, "It may be proper to remind the members, that the library is now furnished with such a collection of Numismatic Works as will enable those who have the wish, to commence those researches in that branch of science." We believe this accession to their Numismatic Library is mainly attributable to the exertions of their active and intelligent Director, Mr. L. H. J. Tonna, a gentleman who can well appreciate the value and importance of medallic studies.

NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

The Society again met on THURSDAY, the 27th of December, 1838.

Dr. Lee, President, in the Chair.

Presents of Numismatic and other Works, from M. W. Gesenius of Halle, J. B. Böhl of Coblenz, and F. de Saulcy, &c. &c., were announced.

The papers read were—

I.

On the Eagle and Thunderbolt on Roman Coins, by Samuel Sharpe, Esq.

II.

The first portion of a Memoir on the light afforded by Ancient Coins in tracing the progress of Civilisation, by John Owen Tudor, Esq.

A letter was read from Mr. Wansey, in illustration of some Roman Coin Moulds, which he exhibited to the Society.

The Chevalier P. O. Brönsted was unanimously elected an *associate*.

The Society then adjourned to

THURSDAY, 24th of JANUARY, 1839.

The President in the Chair.

Among other presents to the Society, were specimens of the singular Iron Money of Kordofan, of which an engraving appears in our present number.

The papers read were—

I.

The concluding portion of Mr. Tudor's Memoir on the light afforded by Ancient Coins in tracing the progress of Civilisation.

II.

A Notice of the Iron Money of Kordofan, by Mr. Arthur T. Holroyd.

Mr. W. H. Rolfe, of Sandwich, exhibited to the Society several Coins discovered in Kent; among them a Gaulish coin dug up at Sandwich, pennies of Offa and Ethelred, and a very curious styca, with the reverse of the Wolf and Twins, found in the Isle of Thanet.

Mr. W. R. Hamilton exhibited a Medallion of the Queen by Signor Pistrucci.

The following gentlemen were elected *associates* of the Society:—

The Marquis Roger de Lagoy, of Aix.
Mons. Adr. de Longpèrier, of the Bibliothèque du Roi, Paris.
Mons. Leon Guioth of Liège.
Signor D. O. Fontana, of Trieste.

The undermentioned were elected Members:—

Sir George Chetwynd, Baronet.
Mr. William Blake, of London.
John Owen Tudor, Esq., of Guildford.
W. H. Barton, Esq.
Major Shepherd.
Fletcher Raincock, Esq.

The Society then adjourned to—

THURSDAY, 28th of FEBRUARY.

The President in the Chair.

Presents were announced, and the following papers read:

I.

A Memoir, by Dr. Grotefend, on "What People first Stamped Money?"

"A book that is shut is but a block"

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